

THE ACADEMY.

A Record of Literature, Learning, Science, and Art.

"INTER SILVAS ACADEMI QUÆRERE VERUM."

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General Literature.

Biographical and Critical Essays. By A. Hayward. (Second Series.) Longman & Co.

"To the merit of novelty," says the author in his preface, "whether of facts or arguments, he can prefer but a very trifling claim. To compress scattered and curious information, and, if possible, to amuse, have been the primary objects of the author. The result is an agreeable addition to popular literature, containing a good deal that will be new as well as interesting to the class of readers for whose amusement he is in the habit of catering." The author is Mr. Jesse, who has written some Memoirs of Richard III., and we have quoted Mr. Hayward's appreciation of them because it serves exactly to characterize the most prominent merit of his own two handsome volumes. Mr. Hayward goes on to say, "If the life of Richard was to be rewritten at all, the task should have been undertaken in a more serious and meditative mood, with a full sense of its responsibilities, and a keener insight into the complex causes of the strange notions of right and wrong, legality and illegality, which marked the period in dispute."

Since Mr. Hayward has reprinted his essays he cannot object to be judged by his own standard; and certainly, whatever their other merits, insight is not one of them, and we think a stronger sense of responsibility would have made them as thorough as they are clear, sober, accurate, and readable. For instance, if Sainte Beuve, who was a layman, had written on the author of the penal code of Louisiana, he would have been more careful to form an estimate of his rank and characteristics as a jurist than to reproduce his sensational argument against capital punishment, and his equally sensational placards for the cells of murderers; perhaps, too, he would have refrained, even in 1864, from sneers at American institutions many of which are already obsolete. We doubt again whether Sainte Beuve would have been content to re-issue an essay on Marie Antoinette printed in 1859 without making use of her authentic correspondence, which has been edited by Von Arneth in reply to the apocryphal letters to which M. Feuillet de Conches stood godfather, or whether he would have ever been content, if he spoke at all of the charge that she desired and

invited the invasion of France, to have spoken so vaguely and evasively as Mr. Hayward. As it stands the essay deals mostly with the scandal about her married life before the Revolution. Lord Holland, who was in a position to check Madame de Campan's narrative, said that her loyalty had made her disingenuous, and that in conversation she was comparatively frank. Lord Holland may have been mistaken, but Mr. Hayward fails to set aside his evidence by proving that there were people who derived an opposite impression from Madame de Campan's conversation; she may have been more or less unreserved at different times and to different persons.

The essay on Richard III. gives no intelligible impression of his character as a whole, but proves that Shakspeare followed More pretty closely (which would be more important if we knew whom More had to follow), and gives some picturesque details about the fight at Bosworth from Nicholl's edition of Hutton. That on the Countess of Albany and Alfieri tells all that most people would care to know about the *amour* from Von Reumont's book and St. René Taillandier's articles in the *Revue des deux Mondes*; admirers of Alfieri might complain that the depth of his passion was underrated.

Perhaps the most substantial thing in the book is the elaborate reply to Parkes' and Merivale's memoirs of Sir Philip Francis. Mr. Hayward leans to the theory that Earl Temple wrote or inspired the Junius Letters, and he reproduces in an appendix the letter which appeared in the *Times* a few days ago, giving the Lord Aberdeen's authority for Pitt's contradiction of the Francis theory. The principal arguments against that theory are very effectively stated. It is shown that if Francis was Junius he must have been something like a psychological monstrosity, a combination of cowardly temerity, fatuous mendacity, and motiveless malignity, and yet with all this that he contrived to thrive by subservience in his own name while posing as a model of grandiose independence under his *nom de plume*. It is shown also that of the numerous coincidences, which the advocates of that theory rely upon, many are indecisive and not a few apocryphal; more stress than it will bear is laid upon the fact that Francis affected dissipated habits and had plenty to do in the War Office. Gentz was dissipated, and wrote quite as elaborately as Junius in the fragments of his time.

The essays on Gentz and George Canning as a man of letters give a good deal of information pleasantly. They both suggest the reflection what a shabby, stupid business, most of the resistance to Napoleon really was, though the *Tugend Bund* made it respectable in Germany for a year or two, and Wellington in the Peninsula for four or five. The haughtiest nobility in Europe were delighted to pay and pamper a dissipated sentimental pamphleteer (who to be sure was a very agreeable confidant) into an European personage because there was no one else who could make their case look plausible on paper; even the British aristocracy "keeping the continent at bay with their backs against the wall," as Mr. Henry Kingsley has it, were glad to fee him to get up their budgets for them. Compared with Gentz, Canning was one of themselves; his useful squibs and his connection with Pitt gave him a right to cultivate and display to the utmost his admirable talent for the highest eloquence of the best debating clubs; but it was only the intellectual poverty which drove them to Gentz that made it possible for Canning to force his way to the premiership, and even gave his party reason to regret that they managed to keep him out so long. Mr. Hayward is too good a Tory to make these reflections himself, but it was surely a needless concession to virtue to insist that Gentz would have been happier if he had been frugal enough to decline presents; of course it was foolish of him to play high, but to mortify his taste for cooks and carriages would have cost him more in the way of self-denial than he would ever have gained in the way of self-respect.

The point best worth noticing in the paper on Marshal Saxe is the discussion of the Battle of Fontenoy. Mr. Hayward hardly succeeds in refuting the Duke of Richelieu's story, which owes its currency to Voltaire, and is repeated by Mr. Carlyle; but he shows clearly that Marshal Saxe's story was accepted at the time by the King and everybody else; in short, we have the alternative of believing that the Duke of Richelieu's memory lent itself to some pardonable exaggeration of the part that he had played, or that Saxe less pardonably distorted all the official accounts of the battle. It is difficult to decide whether the essay on Dumas or that on Maria Edgeworth is the greatest service to the public; the first contains the cream of twenty-four volumes, the second contains the cream of three; but Dumas' memoirs are published, and Miss Edgeworth's are not. Again, in criticizing Dumas Mr. Hayward had only to bring the average opinion of his own generation into focus; in dealing with Miss Edgeworth he had to perform the same function for a generation which has passed away. In the latter case it would have increased our obligations to him if he had compared Miss Edgeworth's talent with Miss Austen's and Mrs. Gore's, neither of whom, though their strength was widely different, ever weighted it with such an enormous mass of copy-book morality.

The essay on Whist we fear will be mischievous. - It contains many interesting anecdotes of the game, and a clear exposition of the long suit system, and a proof that it must be the foundation of all first-rate play; but the writer does not consider the disturbance which its universal adoption would produce among many estimable players who have been used to conduct an intelligible and interesting game on the principle of making their own and their partner's court cards and spoiling those of their enemies, to say nothing of the ulterior danger that under the long suit system whist among inferior players would become monotonous and mechanical. But perhaps Mr. Hayward is of opinion that here to owe cannot help entering upon a period of decadence; it may be that there are no first-rate whist-players under forty, as there are no first-rate poets, painters, or politicians. This lamentable observation occurs in the

paper on Sir Henry Holland's recollections, which leaves the impression that the reviewer liked and respected his author too much to let slip any opportunity for a bit of deferential sparring.

The articles which will have most permanent value are the short notices of Van de Weyer, Lord Lansdowne, Lady Palmerston, and Lord Dalling. The last contains some truly charming letters to the Princess of Lichtenstein, then Marie Fox, and the Countess de Puliga, then Henriette Sanson, and known by her success in private theatricals. Here are some remarks on marriage from a letter to the former:—

"Love, in its passionate meaning, is not required. I will give you a simile which I gathered from a water establishment. Apply a cold, not icy, piece of wet linen to your chest, and cover it nicely over, it gets warmer and warmer, and at last produces perspiration. Put on a hot one, and it gets colder and colder, until it gives you the rheumatism. Passion decreases after passing too often through the madness of jealousy. Liking and affection increase—increase constantly, even in spite of bad temper, which is the greatest enemy to happy association."

We should never leave off if we were to begin quoting from the two sparkling papers on the Pearls and Mock Pearls of History, and the Varieties of Literature and Art, each of which is placed at the beginning of a volume; but we cordially recommend them and all the rest of the book, except perhaps the paper on Junius, to the large and increasing class of readers who, like a celebrated Athenian epicure, prefer to have their food chewed for them.

G. A. SIMCOX.

NOTES ON LITERATURE.

Fraülein Ludmilla Assing, well known through her share in preparing the Varnhagen correspondence for publication, is at present engaged in editing the correspondence and literary remains of a more extraordinary if a less eminent personage, the Prince Pückler-Muskau, author of the once famous *Briefe eines Verstorbenen*, and the original of Immermann's satire. The mere biography of such a hero would scarcely call for notice, as the social celebrity which he laboriously achieved was only a caricature of that of Byron or Alfieri, with a double portion of extravagance to make amends for the lack of genius. But he was in correspondence with a good many of the celebrities of his time, and it was thought that his correspondence would contain some details of interest for the literary history of the century. This is true to a certain extent, though they are smothered in a mass of trivial *Liebes-Briefchen* of no intrinsic value, and of which the publication shows, to say the least, a curious conception of decorum. Apart from his eccentricities, the prince was chiefly famous for the marvels of landscape gardening executed under his superintendence at Muskau; on these he spent two fortunes, his own and his wife's, and as they were still incomplete, procured her consent to a divorce, that he might marry another heiress, for which purpose he came to England. The *Briefe eines Verstorbenen* were addressed to her to whom he had died in this singular manner, but the main purpose of his journey was not fulfilled. The most amusing part of the correspondence is that between Pückler-Muskau and Bettina von Arnim; but the extravagancies of the lady seem to have had a sobering effect upon her friend, who was not accustomed to being outdone in his own line. Bettina's accounts of her relations with Schleiermacher in some of the letters are *abenteuerlich* to a degree.

The February number of the *Atlantic* reproduces the almost forgotten story of Bettina's English translation of the *Briefwechsel mit einem Kinde*, how in disgust with the prosaic language of an Oxford and a Cambridge student whom she successively employed to translate her favourite rhapsodies, she resolved to learn English and to do the work herself, and actually did so, in language that was sometimes pathetic in its grammatical unreason. A colossal edition of 10,000 copies of this remarkable production was shipped without warning to this country, addressed to Messrs. Longmans & Co., who, sad to say,

declined to receive it, and not being ransomed, the consignment was finally sold for waste paper, as unclaimed stock. This and the following number of the same magazine also contain some interesting recollections by Mr. R. D. Owen of his father, Robert Owen, and New Lanark.

In *Unsere Zeit* (February 15) R. Gottschall discusses the "Modern Historical Drama," with a view to account for the fact that though 90 per cent. of the plays annually published in Germany are historical in subject only one per cent. of those acted are so. He points out that an historical play is not *ipso facto* emancipated from all concern for dramatic exigencies, and his remarks tend to limit the choice of the dramatist to historical incidents which have a natural dramatic unity and completeness, or to the illustration of a striking historical character by the help of more or less imaginary circumstances, which must not, however, be flagrantly at violence with truth.

M. Montégut in the *Revue* (March 1) gives from tradition a characteristic anecdote told of Bonaparte during his stay at Auxonne between 1788 and 91: there was a slight tumult, and the crowd had been vainly summoned to disperse; he ordered the troops to load, and then stepping forward said: "Citoyens, que les honnêtes gens se retirent bien vite; je n'ai ordre de tirer que sur la canaille;" of course the street cleared instantaneously.

We learn from the *Nation* that Mr. Brownson, the representative of independent Roman Catholic thought in America, has begun a new and "last series" of his *Quarterly Review*, which will treat of religion, politics, philosophy, and general literature.

Professor Bernhard ten Brink, whose Chaucer studies have met with due acknowledgment from English scholars, will soon remove from Marburg to his new position in the University of Strassburg. We hear the first volume of his *History of English Literature, coming down to Gascoyne*, is nearly ready for publication.

Dr. C. Th. Heigel writes to the *Allgemeine Zeitung* (March 9, 10) to combat the prevailing impression, explicitly countenanced by Baron Hormayr, that the extracts from the will of Ferdinand I., published by the court of Vienna in 1740 in answer to the challenge of the Elector of Bavaria, were falsified or forged. On the extinction of the Hapsburg male line Charles Albert claimed to succeed, under this will, to all the States governed by the late Emperor, though, like the Elector of Saxony, on his marriage with a daughter of Joseph I. he had renounced all claim to the inheritance in right of his wife, and had subsequently recognized the Pragmatic Sanction on his own account. Authorities then and later were divided on the question whether, according to German usage, the claim of the male representative of an elder female line was better than that of the *Erbtöchter* of the last direct male heir. But an examination of the original documents in the Vienna Archives—so liberally opened to students under the direction of H. von Arneth—has convinced Dr. Heigel that Ferdinand's will did really speak of *eheliche Leibeserben*, lawful, not male heirs, as the partisans of the Bavarian claim insinuated.

The *Allgemeine Zeitung* (Feb. 16) publishes some personal recollections of Friedrich Rückert, together with additional extracts from the correspondence between Rückert and Stockmar made use of in Baron Stockmar's memoirs. The latter belong for the most part to 1812-13, the period of Rückert's earliest loves and love-poems, and are characteristic of the intellectual tone of what was then Young Germany. As he approached middle age, Rückert's Oriental studies, like Uhland's mediæval and historical ones, had somewhat the effect of withdrawing him from the leading place he might have claimed amongst contemporary German poets; though the author of *Geharnischte Sonetten* could not well escape the tribute of a little patriotic doggerel in 1863. It appears from these reminiscences that the Persian mysticism naturalized in his verses was a fair representation of his attitude towards graver subjects of speculation, but we are assured that he died a Theist.

In the *Revue des deux Mondes* (Feb. 15), M. Maxime Du Camp reviews the condition of primary, secondary, and higher

education in Paris. In the elementary schools, which have a strong family likeness all the world over, he thinks the substance and methods of teaching all that can be wished, but buildings and playgrounds are urgently wanted. He repeats the complaints so often made of the effect of the *concours général* on the lycæums and private schools, and points to the obvious remedy of making the examination for the *baccalauréat-ès-lettres* a reality. The University education has been ruined, he considers, by politics, the Government not daring to appoint the best professors, because they were probably its enemies, while the actual professors found it easier to draw audiences by a display of liberalism than by serious zeal for tuition. M. Cherbuliez concludes the history of Méta Holdenis, a sentimental pietist adventuress from German Switzerland, with strange blue eyes, who ends as a Protestant deaconess. It is natural to compare her to Becky Sharp; without being as powerfully conceived, she is much more realistically painted, the subtlest point being that it is an indulgence to her to deceive herself by fancying that she is giving way to feelings which all the while are perfectly under control. Even when unmasked she still continues to think herself what it suits her best to seem; she has none of the cynicism of Becky, who never for a moment in her own inmost heart forgets that she is every bit as bad as it pleases the author to call her. Méta's intrigues are very ingeniously invented, but the writer scarcely allows himself time to work them out; as soon as she has begun to do serious mischief, she is baffled by a *coup de théâtre*, which would be more in place upon the stage.

A new tragedy, entitled "*King Vukashin*," has appeared from the pen of the fertile Serb dramatist, M. Ban.

The *Journal officiel de la République française* has recently published a report of M. Dozon, the French consul at Philippopolis, with regard to the genuineness of the popular songs collected among the Bulgarians of Thrace and Macedonia. M. Dozon has himself made a collection, embracing all the varieties of popular Bulgarian poetry, which is now ready for publication.

M. Zubek, the biographer of Komensky (Comenius), is about shortly to publish a complete edition of the works of the celebrated pedagogue. The first volume will contain his didactic works; the second, his philological works; the third, his philosophical and metaphysical.

Art and Archaeology.

Studies in the History of the Renaissance. By Walter H. Pater. Macmillan and Co. 1873.

THERE are two kinds of criticism. The one, which may be called dogmatic, attempts to fix a standard of taste, propriety, and beauty, and judges by rule; the other, which may be called æsthetic, refers its judgments to the sensation of the individual critic, and sets up no other standard. If the former leads to a hard and Pharisaical lack of sympathy, the latter has a tendency to pass into mere intellectual Sybaritism. The æsthetic critic too easily becomes a voluptuary, seeking to stimulate his sensibilities by subtle flavours, instead of discriminating what is valuable from what is worthless for the information of the world. Yet his method is really right, for criticism is not a science, neither is there any absolute definition of beauty. The dogmatic critic is palpably absurd in trying to impose upon the world his peculiar canons of taste. The æsthetic critic, if he has been resolutely careful to train his *alodons* by the study of great works, and if he possesses the faculty of explaining and giving a reason for his conclusions, is far more helpful to the cause of general culture. To expect an *objective Gültigkeit* in matters of criticism is clearly false. It is enough that the critic should be accomplished, sincere, gifted with delicate perceptions, and rational. Mr. Pater professedly belongs to the second class of critics; his book is a masterpiece of the choicest and most delicate æsthetic

criticism. "What is the peculiar sensation, what is the peculiar quality of pleasure, which his work has the property of exciting in us, and which we cannot get elsewhere?" This question, which Mr. Pater asks (p. 40) of Botticelli, strikes the keynote to his critical method. He further explains his purpose in the preface; and each of his eight studies is a wonderfully patient and powerful attempt to do that which is most difficult in criticism, to apprehend for his own mind, and to make manifest to the minds of others, the peculiar *virtue* which gives distinction to the work he has to treat of. In this way the critic becomes himself an artist, a creator. He undertakes at once a higher and more difficult task than the Aristarchus of the schools, who is contented with applying his shallow foot-rule of preconceived opinion. As might be expected, the qualities of Mr. Pater's own temperament strongly modify his perceptions. We find in him (to use his own phrase) "a lover of strange souls." Nor is he wholly free from the intellectual Sybaritism to which the critics of his school, who feed themselves on beautiful things—"en exquis amateurs, en humanistes accomplis"—are liable. Comparatively isolated, indifferent to common tastes and sympathies, careless of maintaining at any cost a vital connection with the universal instincts of humanity, they select what gives them the acutest pleasure, and explain the nature of that pleasure to their readers.

The great distinction of this book is that its author has been completely conscious of what he wished to achieve, and has succeeded in the elaboration of a style perfectly suited to his matter and the temper of his mind. He has studied his prose as carefully as poets study their verses, and has treated criticism as though it were the art of music. Yet he is no mere rhetorician. The penetrative force and subtlety of his intellect are everywhere apparent. There is scarcely a superfluous word or a hasty phrase in the whole volume. Each paragraph, each sentence is saturated with thought; not with that kind of thought which Novalis described as a "dead feeling, a wan, weak life," but with the very substance of the feeling which only becomes thought in order that it may receive expression in words. To do justice to such a style either by quotation or by description is difficult. Yet the following sentences may be extracted as containing in brief something of the peculiar flavour which gives value to the book:—"A certain strangeness, something of the blossoming of the aloe, is, indeed, an element in all true works of art; that they shall excite or surprise us is indispensable" (p. 62). "No one ever expressed more truly than Michel Angelo the notion of inspired sleep, of faces charged with dreams" (p. 59). "The spiritualist is satisfied in seeing the sensuous elements escape from his conceptions; his interest grows, as the dyed garment bleaches in the keener air" (p. 195). "I suppose nothing brings the real air of a Tuscan town so vividly to mind as those pieces of pale blue and white porcelain, by which he is best known, like fragments of the milky sky itself fallen into the cool streets and breaking into the darkened churches" (p. 53). So consummate is Mr. Pater's style that we are surprised to find that he should ever have allowed himself to repeat the same phrase (pp. 64, 66, "but only blank ranges of rock and dim vegetable forms as blank as they"). In like manner he is so patient and perfect in his study of picturesque details that we are almost in spite of ourselves forced to challenge the veracity of his images. For the most part, he will be found as accurate as he is subtle. Yet when he speaks (p. 30) of "that map or system of the world held as a great target or shield in the hands of the grey-headed father of all things, in one of the earlier frescoes of the Campo Santo at Pisa," he has forgotten that the point of this old picture lies in the fact that it is *not* the creative Demeurgus, but Christ, in the prime of manhood, who supports

the disc of the universe, with its concentric rings of created beings. Such minute criticism, however, is mere cavilling.

The unity of the book, which is made up for the most part of essays collected from periodicals and polished by their author, consists in this, that each article treats of some phase of the Renaissance through a representative character or work of art. Two are devoted to French literature, and Mr. Pater is particularly happy in his exposition of the theory that the renaissance of modern Europe originated in France. The truth of this theory, which may easily be exaggerated, is that the renaissance was not a sudden and violent explosion of the fifteenth century, but that in all the countries of Europe which possessed the elements of culture—in southern Spain, in Provence, in Frederick the Second's Sicily, in the Paris of Abélard, in the Florence of Boccaccio, and in the Lombardy of the Paterini heretics—the qualities of renaissance striving after liberty were discernible within the middle age itself. Of Mr. Pater's two French studies, that on Du Bellay, in whom he sees "the subtle and delicate sweetness which belong to a refined and comely decadence," is perhaps the more interesting. Like Théophile Gautier and like Baudelaire, Mr. Pater has a sympathetic feeling for the beauty of autumn and decay. He is not even insensible to "what may be called the fascination of corruption." This, which is a very genuine note of his æsthetic temperament, leads him at times, I think, to make mistakes of criticism. A notable instance of this is to be found in his interpretation of Botticelli's Madonnas. They are all painted after one fixed type of beauty—Botticelli, like all true artists, having selected and assimilated for himself from the multitudes of forms just that which represented his peculiar ideal. Mr. Pater imagines that in that sad, languid, sleepy, pallid woman, Botticelli sought to depict one who, "though she holds in her hands the 'Desire of all nations,' is one of those who are neither for God nor for his enemies" . . . one to whom the visit of Gabriel brought an "intolerable honour." I cannot do justice to the eloquence and grace with which this theory is worked out in the essay on Sandro Botticelli. But I must suggest that it ascribes to the painter a far greater amount of sceptical self-consciousness than he was at all likely to have possessed. However we may explain Botticelli's preference for that melancholy type of beauty, we must remember that Lippo Lippi, his master, and Filippino Lippi, his fellow-student, present us with two other varieties of the same type, markedly different, it is true, in sentiment from Botticelli's, but yet like enough to justify the belief that the type itself was the note of a specific school, and not the deliberate invention of an antagonist of the most cherished Catholic tradition. It is far more consistent with Florentine feeling to suppose that in his Madonna's melancholy Botticelli tried to delineate her premonition of the coming sword, and not her weariness in being the mother of the sinless Saviour. A criticism of Michel Angelo, which is marked by the same subtlety and originality, may be questioned in like manner as somewhat over-refined. In the essay on Luca Della Robbia, Mr. Pater defines with much delicacy what are the different methods by which great sculptors have spiritualized their several kinds of work. Passing to Michel Angelo, and noticing the incompleteness of much that he has left, he says: "Well! that incompleteness is Michel Angelo's equivalent for colour in sculpture; it is his way of etherealizing pure form, relieving its hard realism, communicating to it breath, pulsation, the effect of life." This is extremely ingenious, and subjectively it is, perhaps, true: *we* gain by the suggestive ruggedness of much of Michel Angelo's work—in which it seems as if a soul were escaping from the stone. But did Michel Angelo really calculate

this effect? That is what is more than doubtful. When he had the time, the will, the opportunity, he finished with the utmost polish. His "Moses" and his "Night"—the latter of which he illustrated by one of his most splendid poems—are smoothed and rounded and completed in their slightest curves. And to this perfection of finish his work was always approximating. That it often fell short may be explained simply by the facts of his life and the strange qualities of his temperament.

In the essay on "The Poetry of Michel Angelo" Mr. Pater shows the truest sympathy for what has generally been overlooked in this stern master—his sweetness. The analysis of the nature of that sweetness is one of the triumphs of Mr. Pater's criticism. Leonardo da Vinci attracts him less as an artist merely than as a personality of deep and splendid fascination. Pico della Mirandola again receives a separate study, in which we are made to feel with an intensity peculiar to Mr. Pater's style, the charm, as of some melody, which clung about him. The longest essay in the book is on Winckelmann, which, besides containing a very interesting sketch of the man, is full of good criticism of the Greek in contrast with the modern spirit. What is said on p. 195 about the way in which Winckelmann was privileged to approach Greek art is perfect. As the book begins with a preface which sets forth the author's theory of criticism, so it ends with a conclusion in which he expresses his theory of life. Between the cradle and the grave we have but a short breathing space. How are we to use it best by "getting as many pulsations as possible into the given time?" Mr. Pater's answer is that Art is after all the most satisfactory pursuit: "Of this wisdom, the poetic passion, the desire of beauty, the love of art for art's sake has most; for art comes to you professing frankly to give nothing but the highest quality to your moments as they pass, and simply for those moments' sake." J. A. SYMONDS.

ART NOTES.

The death of Gustave Ricard has excited universal regret in France. At Marseilles, where he was born, his portrait (one of his latest works), crowned in gold and veiled in crape, has been placed in the centre of the grande salle of the Cercle Artiste. M. Joseph Autran, of the Académie Française, has published a sonnet to the "Noble artiste aimé, dont nous creusons la tombe," and M. Charles Yriarte in the present number of the *Gazette des Beaux-Arts* contributes an appreciative biographical and critical article. Gustave Ricard was born in 1824, at Marseilles, and went to Paris in 1844 to study in the atelier of Léon Coynet, and from thence in 1847 to Italy, where he passed some time at Rome, Florence, and Venice. It was the great Venetian masters who chiefly attracted him, and their influence was to the last apparent in his painting. In 1850 he exhibited in the Salon a little painting of "Une Bohémienne tenant un chat," which at once brought him into notice, and from that time he contributed regularly to the great French exhibition, sometimes sending as many as eight or nine portraits, until 1859, when for some unknown reason he withdrew entirely from public exhibition. He lived, we are told, a simple retired life in the midst of Paris, and never sought to attract popularity; his work indeed was more calculated to please the critical few than the undiscerning many. His portrait, of which there is a fine etching by M. Le Rat in the *Gazette des Beaux-Arts*, is more like that of a Venetian senator by Titian or Moroni than a modern French artist by himself.

The *Gazette des Beaux-Arts*, the publication of which was delayed from the 1st to the 6th of March on account of the extra number of plates, contains—1. An article by M. René Menard on the important collection of paintings of the French school in the possession of M. Laurent Richard. Several engravings from the pictures in this collection are given; among others a strong and somewhat coarse etching by M. Feyen

Perrin of Delacroix's *Médée*, of which M. Laurent Richard possesses a reduced copy, and a charming etching by M. Greux after Dupré called *La Rivière*. We understand that this collection is to be sold at Paris early in April. 2. A notice by Emile Galichon of J.-C. Robinson's *Critical account of the drawing by Michel-Angelo and Raffaello in the University Galleries, Oxford*. 3. An account of the writing and ornamentation of the charters and diplomas in the Musée des Archives Nationales, illustrated with several quaint examples of grotesque Gothic ornament. 4. The biographical account of Gustave Ricard, before mentioned. 5. An article entitled "Un collectionneur de l'an VI.," which makes known a most important collection of pictures that has been hoarded away in the Rue Castiglione, by M. Papin, without any one suspecting its existence. The collection includes paintings of the Italian, the German, the Flemish, and the French schools, but the later Dutch masters are the best represented. The *Gazette* furnishes us with etchings from pictures by Isaac van Ostade, Philip Wouwerman, Phil. Debucourt, and Ruysdael in this hitherto unknown collection. 6. M. Alfred Darcel concludes his article on "Le Mouvement Archéologique relatif au moyen âge." 7. In an article entitled, though for what reason does not appear, "From Hugo van der Goes to John Constable," M. Henri Perrier deigns to acknowledge the existence of an English school of painting, and to regret that it is unrepresented in the Louvre. M. Perrier gives a slight and somewhat inaccurate account of several of our English landscapists, and then passes on to some of the least noteworthy of the later Dutch masters. The article is illustrated by a portrait of Canova by Jackson, an etching of a Fishmonger's stall, after Abram van Beyeren, and "Les bords de la Meuse," after Van Goyen. It will be seen that this number of the *Gazette des Beaux-Arts* was well worth waiting for.

An exhibition of the works of the late Léon Vaudoyer, one of the most distinguished architects of the present day, is open for a few weeks at the École des Beaux-Arts. His greatest work, the Cathedral of Marseilles, begun in 1855, was unfortunately left unfinished at his death, but it is hoped that the drawings and plans he has made for it will be sufficient to enable his friend and pupil M. Esperandieu to continue the work in the spirit in which it was begun by the master. Léon Vaudoyer was one of those architects who aspire to create a modern style.

A sale was announced for March 1 of the studies and sketches of Aug. Anastasi, the French artist who, it may be remembered, was struck with blindness in 1870. In the preface to the catalogue there is a short account of Anastasi's life, distinguished alike by its talents and its misfortune. The finished works of the artist's studio were sold about a year ago, and met with successful competition, but at that time, when he was still hoping to regain his sight, Anastasi could not make up his mind to part with his cherished studies and sketches for future paintings. Now, however, all hope is over, and the poor blind painter sells everything. The catalogue, besides a few paintings, contains a list of 400 studies painted from nature, and 200 water-colour drawings.

At a recent sale by Messrs. Sotheby, Wilkinson, and Hodge of ancient and modern engravings, the property of a well-known print-collector, the following high prices were realized:—By Albrecht Dürer, "Adam and Eve," £73; "St. Hubertus," £36; "Melencolia," £31 10s. By Marc Antonio, "Adam and Eve," £59; "Paul Preaching at Athens," £84; "St. Cecilia," £50; "Judgment of Paris," £80; "A Woman Watering a Plant," £94. By Raphael Morghen, "Aurora," £53; and lastly the celebrated print of the "Three Trees," by Rembrandt, £123. At the sale of the Hippiusley collection, from whence this impression was derived, it fetched £83.

The annual exhibition of the Cercle de l'Union Artiste in the Place Vendôme is, we are told, crowded every day. This exhibition of the great art club of Paris forms, as it were, the *anti-chambre* to the "Salon," for many French artists allow their pictures to be criticised here before sending them to the greater exhibition of the Champs-Élysées, which does not open

until May. The great attraction of the present collection is a full-length life-size portrait of Madame Rattazzi, by Charles Jalabert, which stands forth from a brilliant scarlet background. It is said to be an excellent likeness as well as a most striking painting. Other works of great merit are—"Sur la Plage," a fine effect of sea and sky, by G. Jundt; "Le Rosario, Souvenir d'Espagne," by Gustave Doré; "Le Passage du Gué," by Broun; and "Laveuses à Medinet en Egypte," by Bonnat.

The March number of the *Portfolio* contains the beginning of a narrative called "The Sylvan Year," by Raoul Dubois. The author tells us in the preface that "whatever Nature may be from the strictly scientific point of view, it is interesting to the artist (whether literary or pictorial) mainly as it is related in ways more or less mysterious to the world of feeling which lies within our own breasts." He has therefore deemed it advisable to "introduce one or two fictitious personages and an element of human interest" into what promises to be a descriptive history of the forests on the banks of the Loire. "The Sylvan Year" is enriched by two splendid etchings, one, a flight of wild geese over a barren moor, by Karl Bodmer, and the other, some trunks of forest trees in weird sunlight, by P. G. Hamerton.

Among Professor Brunn's *Archaeologische Miscellen* which appear in the Transactions of the Academy of Science at Munich for November last, we find notice of two monuments which have a special interest for students of ancient art in this country: (1) the so-called Harpy monument discovered by Sir Charles Fellows in 1838 on the acropolis of Xanthus, and now in the Lycian Room of the British Museum, and (2) an archaic figure of Apollo acquired for the national collection about ten years ago from Lord Strangford, and now in the Phigaleian Room. The peculiarly archaic style of its sculpture, in which the elements of an Attic and a provincial school seem to be blended, has obtained for the Harpy monument a place of considerable importance among the remains of ancient art, while the obscurity of the subject which it represents has given rise to a conflicting variety of opinions. As regards the peculiarities of style, Brunn had previously (1870, ii., p. 205) communicated his opinion. His purpose is now with the interpretation of the subject. Curtius, the most recent authority on the matter, had discovered in the egg-shaped bodies of the Harpies, from which the monument derives its name, a profound symbolical manifestation of belief in the immortality of the soul. What suggested this idea was the fact that the Harpies are undoubtedly represented as in the act of carrying off the souls of deceased persons, whether the daughters of Pandareos, as is supposed, or not. And what further lent colour to the theory was the presence of such attributes as the apple and pomegranate, which were associated in the Greek mind with thoughts of a life in the lower world. On the other hand, Brunn points out that the primary signification both of the pomegranate and apple was that of a symbol of marriage, and that it was only through their occurrence as symbols of the marriage of Hades and Persephone that they came to have some indirect reference to after life. Of the other attributes which occur on the monument, the cow with its sucking calf, the egg, and the dove of Aphrodite are obvious emblems of family life. The same must be said of the three stages of life represented by the figures of a boy, a youth, and a man. Starting, therefore, with the idea that the artist's design was simply to indicate the ties of family life which had been broken by the death of the person or persons whom he was employed to commemorate, the subject admits of easy explanation. It is unusual, no doubt, to find in the sepulchral art of Greece such an obvious representation of death as that of Harpies carrying off souls, the mere existence of a *stèle* or a tomb being sufficient evidence of that event. It should, however, be borne in mind that we have here to do with the work of a people not purely Greek, and distinguished above all, as far as we know, for the veneration of their dead. That people accustomed to the contemplation of death, as the Lycians appear to have been, may have regarded such representations of it without horror, is not unlikely. That they had arrived at a belief in the immortality of the soul at the early period to which this monument is assigned, is highly improbable.

With regard to the Strangford Apollo, Brunn has found from a detailed comparison of it with the Aeginetan statues in Munich

that it belongs to the same school, the differences being only such as would be expected among the individual artists attached to one school, and, indeed, not much greater than those which have been observed between the sculptures of the western and those of the eastern pediments of the temple at Aegina. The expression of face in the Strangford Apollo and the position of the eyes and mouth are more pleasant than in the Aeginetan figures, which never fails to produce a feeling of disappointment when we turn from the finely rendered anatomy of the body to the petrified smile of the face.

An exhibition of the works of the late Edward Magnus has recently been opened at Berlin. There is a notice of it in a recent number of *Im Neuen Reich*. The critic considers that Magnus's chief significance for the present generation lies in the peculiar conception of womanhood in his paintings.

Now that the Cesnola collection of antiquities from Cyprus has left this country for good, and the air has again become clear of the thunders of our watchful monitors in the press, it is consoling to find that the opportunity was not also lost of securing photographs of such of the objects as in our present state of knowledge might be deemed the most important for purposes of historical study. A series of photographs from objects selected for this purpose has been published under the title of *The Antiquities discovered in Cyprus by General di Cesnola, with an Introduction by Sidney Colvin, M.A.* (London: Mansell and Co. 1873.) In the introduction Mr. Colvin has succeeded admirably in placing in a vivid light the very scant knowledge which we as yet possess in reference to that very obscure problem, the relationship of early Greek sculpture to the contemporary art of Assyria and Egypt, a problem upon which the time appears not to have arrived yet for an influx of new light. At all events the hopes recently raised to a high pitch by discoveries in Cyprus seem to have little promise of being speedily realized. Further research may do a great deal, especially if attended with the discovery of sculptures in the more precious materials in which those artists loved to work, by whom the craft in Cyprus is assumed to have been influenced. Again, before we can be satisfied of a genuine Greek influence having been exercised on the art of that island, it will be necessary to produce, instead of a multitude of heads, at least a few bodies in which a sincere effort has been made to reproduce the human form with some degree of truth to nature. For Greek sculpture, it would seem, had not itself shaken off Asiatic influence, and certainly had not risen to the rank of a fine art, until it took to statuary and the close study of the human form. That which is most striking in the remains of Greek sculpture, the scarcity of heads as compared with torsoes, is exactly inverted in the case of Cyprian remains. Meantime we must be thankful, even though these photographs are not the best that could be produced, for the service which has been rendered by preserving the typical objects of the Cesnola collection in a manner with which serious students of ancient art can have no reason to complain.

In a letter to the *Athenæum*, of March 8th, Mr. Wood communicates an account of his excavations at Ephesus, together with a ground plan of the Temple of Diana, the accuracy of which appears for the most part to be vouched for by remains found *in situ*. Short as it is, the letter conveys a striking picture of the difficulties and hardships which beset enterprise of this kind in a country where the population is enervated by marsh fever and degraded by superstition. The marvel is that even the ambition of finding one of the lost wonders of the ancient world should have sustained Mr. Wood through these years of incessant toil and vexation. As an architect he would also of course have derived a powerful impulse from the fact that the site of the Temple of Diana, if anywhere, was the spot on which some of the most important questions of Ionic architecture might be finally determined. The temple is now found to have been octastyle, that is, with a row of eight columns in front, not decastyle, as had sometimes been supposed, for the sake of working in Pliny's measurement of the width (220 feet) without requiring what was obviously much too large an intercolumniation. And yet Pliny's measurement seems to be correct, the fact being that it applies very well to the lowermost step of the raised platform on which the temple stood, and not to the uppermost step. This lowermost step measures 238 feet

34 inches English. Mr. Wood is not yet prepared to verify the dimension of length given by Pliny. With regard to the number of external columns, Pliny is again found to have been accurate in reckoning them at one hundred. Of these thirty-six were sculptured (*columnae coelatae*). Having found important remains of sculptured columns in front, Mr. Wood proposes to account for the thirty-six by placing two rows of eight each at either end, though as yet no trace of sculptured drums has been found in the rear, and one at each of the four *antae*. It still remains a puzzle, however, whether we are to interpret Pliny's expression as meaning that the columns were sculptured all the way up, or whether only a portion at the base was decorated with figures in relief. From Mr. Wood's letter in the *Times* (25th February) they would appear to have been sculptured to the distance of at least three drums up from the base. Each drum being of the height of the figures upon it, that would give three tiers of figures. If this be so, it is singular that the bronze medallion in the Bibliothèque in Paris, which presents a view of the front of the temple, should only show one row of figures on the columns. As to Pliny's other statement that twenty-seven of the columns were the gift of kings, the only evidence as yet found consists of some fragments of base mouldings, on which large finely-cut letters occur, which are so far intelligible that they must be parts of proper names, and possibly the names of the donors. The excavations now employ a large force of workmen, and it is to be hoped that before the unhealthy season sets in the entire area of the temple will have been explored. When this is done it would be advisable to clear away the soil to some distance round the outside of the platform to see whether or not the sculptures of the upper part of the building, if there were any, may not have been thrown outwards by the fall.

During the summer of 1874 a very interesting exhibition will take place in Russia. The venerable city of Kiev has been chosen as the seat of the next triennial meeting of the Russian Archaeological Congress, and the President of the Moscow Archaeological Society, Count Oubarof, has issued circulars calling the attention of antiquarians to the exhibition which will then and there be held. All kinds of objects in any way illustrative of Slavonic archaeology will be gladly received for exhibition, and it is hoped that a most valuable and instructive collection will be brought together. The period which it is chiefly intended to illustrate is that which lies "between the seventh or ninth century and the end of the fourteenth," that is to say:—For Russia, up to the death of Dmitry Donskoi (1389); for Bohemia, Moravia, and Silesia, to the death of Wenceslas IV. (1419); for Serbia, to the battle of Kasof (1389); for Poland, to the death of Louis of Hungary (1382); for Galicia, to the death of Casimir III. (1370); for Pomerania, to the death of Wratisslas VII. (1457); for Dalmatia, Bulgaria, Lusatia, Hungary, Croatia, Roumania, &c., to the end of the 14th century.

The "Wagner Society" repeated the scheme of their first concert at St. James's Hall, on March 6th, as announced. The hall was densely crowded, and the enthusiasm of the audience even greater than the first time, which shows how decided a mark the works of Wagner have made in this country, as they had to appeal this time not to a narrow circle of special friends, but to a miscellaneous gathering. The engagements of Herr Diener on the continent had made his stay for this concert impossible. In consequence his place as vocalist had been taken by Mdle. Girardi and Signor Garcia. The former sang "Elizabeth's Prayer" from Tannhäuser and "Elsa's Song" from Lohengrin with good taste and a fresh voice. Signor Garcia gave but little satisfaction in Wolfram's "Romance" from Tannhäuser, while two French songs written in Wagner's earlier style seemed to be more congenial to his powers of rendering. The orchestra followed their excellent leader Mr. Dannreuther with unabated enthusiasm and bravura.

Mr. Walter Bache's ninth annual concert took place on February 28th. The most interesting features were two new works by Franz Liszt, the introduction of whose compositions into this country is exclusively owing to the meritorious zeal of his distinguished pupil. They were Psalm xiii., and the "Chorus of Reapers" from Herder's "Prometheus." The former

work is an elaborate setting of the biblical text for tenor solo, chorus and orchestra, in which the style of contemplative repose which is generally thought to befit the musical rendering of religious subjects is changed for the most modern expression of personal feeling. Since Beethoven's "Missa solemnis," the former style would indeed seem, to say the least, antiquated, and we can only give our fullest consent to Liszt's attempt to individualize the character of the struggling and despairing psalmist in the most dramatic manner. The effect of the work depends in consequence to a great extent on the rendering of the solo part, and in the qualities required for this most difficult task Mr. Henry Guy was entirely deficient. His agreeable but not very strong tenor was almost crushed by the pressure of Liszt's passion combined with a full-scored orchestral accompaniment. Chorus and orchestra, conducted by Mr. Bache, were excellent both in the surmounting of difficulties of counterpoint and in the tenderness of the melodious passages. The "Chorus of Reapers" is a musical idyll, full of delicious melody and orchestral colouring, reminding one of Beethoven's "Pastoral symphony" with its songs of nightingale and quail. The public were charmed and surprised by this mild form of the "music of the future," and demanded the chorus *da capo*. Wagner's "Huldigungs Marsch," a piece full of broad melody and festive brilliancy, but of a strongly occasional type and only partly scored by the composer himself, was the third novelty of the evening. It remains to add a few words about Mr. Bache's playing of Schumann's concerto in A. (Op. 54). We have repeatedly pointed out the great technical skill, combined with a rare perception of poetical intentions, which advantageously characterize Mr. Bache's style. It required all these qualities to render successfully the plaintive passion of the first part, and to surmount the enormous difficulties of the brilliant finale in the way, which elicited the most enthusiastic applause of the audience. This piece, and the choral march from Beethoven's "Ruins of Athens," were conducted by Mr. Manns.

New Publications.

- GRIMM, H. Zur Abwehr gegen Herrn Prof. Dr. A. Springer's Raphael-Studien. Berlin: Dümmler.
- HERACLIVS. Von den Farben und Künsten der Römer. Originaltext u. Uebersetzung, mit Einleitung, Noten u. Excursen versehen von A. Ilg. (Quellenschriften für Kunstgeschichte u. Kunsttechnik des Mittelalters u. der Renaissance.) iv. Bdchen. Wien: Braumüller.
- HIPLER, F. Literaturgeschichte des Bisthums Ermland. Leipzig: Peter.
- HIPLER, F. Spicilegium Copernicanum. Leipzig: Peter.
- HIRSCHE, K. Prolegomena zu einer neuen Ausgabe der *Imitatio Xti*. (Endeavour to establish authorship.) Berlin: Lüderitz.
- KAUFMANN, J. Traité de la langue du poète Ecosais William Dunbar, précédée d'une esquisse de sa vie et de ses poèmes, et d'un choix de ses poésies. Bonn: Weber.
- MASSALOFF, N. Les Rembrandt de l'Ermitage Imperial de Saint Petersbourg. 40 planchs gravées à l'Eau Forte. Leipzig: Drugulin.
- PATER, W. H. Studies in the History of the Renaissance. Macmillan.
- PRINZESSIN AMALIE, Herzogin zu Sachsen, Dramatische Werke: im Auftrag S.M. des Königs Johann von Sachsen, aus dem Nachlasse vervollständigt u. hrsg. v. R. Waldmüller. 1 Bd. Leipzig: Tauchnitz.
- SAND, GEORGE. Impressions et Souvenirs.

Physical Science.

- (1.) *Voyage en Abyssinie*. Exécuté de 1862 à 1864. Par Guillaume Lejean. Text and atlas folio. Paris: L. Hachette et Cie. 1872.
- (2.) *Guillaume Lejean et ses Voyages*. Par Richard Cortambert. Extrait du Bulletin de la Société de Géographie. Paris: Ch. Delagrave et Cie. 1872.

FROM M. Cortambert's very pleasant sketch of the life of the well-known French traveller, whose posthumous work on Abyssinia is now before us, we learn that Guillaume Lejean was the son of a humble Breton farmer, of Plouégat-Guerrand, in Finistère. Distinguished as a youth by his intelligence, love of work, and retentive memory, he was taken in hand by the priests of the College of St. Pol de Léon, who hoped one day to see him take a high place in their brotherhood. But his independent spirit rebelled against the monotonous

calm of the ecclesiastical profession, and chose rather the uncertainties of a free life. Appointed secretary to the Sous-Préfecture of Morlaix at an early age, and availing himself of his position to gratify his love of historical research, he found in the archives of the town the materials for a "Communal History of Finisterre," which he published in his twenty-second year, and, later, for a work on "Brittany and its Historians." In 1847 he came to Paris, where he maintained himself for a time as a journalist. Ancient geography, closely allied as it is to history, became a favourite study: Lejean was specially attracted towards that of Turkey in Europe, which offered striking comparisons of a bygone age with a story in process of formation; a great past to examine, and a strangely curious present period of nationalities the most diverse and tendencies the most opposite submitting to the rule of a handful of Asiatic Mohammedans, who for centuries have been, as it were, camped in Europe. It was now his good fortune, favoured by recommendations from several distinguished men, to obtain a mission from the Institute to travel in the East, and soon Lejean was traversing on foot the mountains of Albania, Bulgaria, the Roumanian Principalities, Herzegovina, and Montenegro, noting alike the diversified topography and ethnology of those countries. This tour enabled him to prepare a monograph on the peoples of Turkey, accompanied by a map, which was published as one of the supplementary parts of *Petermann's Mittheilungen*, and is still perhaps the most important work on the ethnography of that part of Europe. A few years after his return to Paris from this undertaking he formed the project of ascending the Nile as far as its sources, and, favoured by the support of some one in high station, took his departure for Africa. To avoid a tedious passage up the Nile from Egypt he chose the route from Suakin on the Red Sea across the lower Akbara to Khartum, at the confluence of the Blue and White Niles. After some months spent at this point he ascended the White Nile, but was not successful in attaining any higher place than the neighbourhood of Gondokoro, where a succession of fevers and the hostility of the native tribes compelled a retreat, leaving it to Speke, Grant, and Baker to solve the enigma of the upper course of the mysterious river. Two years later, however, we find Lejean again in the basin of the Nile, this time charged with a diplomatic mission to King Theodore, who, believing himself to be the instrument in the hands of Providence by whom the diverse factions of Abyssinia should be forced into unity, had claimed the recognition of the sovereigns of Europe. The geography of this most interesting journey in the Abyssinian Highland, and the narrative of the stirring events through which it led until Lejean's fortunate escape from the hands of the tyrant, form the subject of his special work, which we shall notice further on. In 1864, having accepted a mission to Persia and Cashmere, he recrossed the scene of his former labours in Turkey, and journeyed thence on horseback through Asia Minor, visiting Mount Argæus and examining the ruins of Ctesiphon and Seleucia on his way to the Persian Gulf and India. Scarcely had he come back from this magnificent tour, when, still urged by the spirit of travel, he once more turned to his chosen field of labour in European Turkey, this time to begin an undertaking beyond his powers—the topographical survey of the whole country. Each year he departed for a surveying campaign of seven to eight months, returning to Paris only to arrange the notes which he had collected, and then to start afresh.

Worn out with incessant labour, and suffering much from the calamities which had overtaken France, whither he returned on the outbreak of the war, Lejean was carried off, in February, 1871, by fever, in the 47th year of his age, when residing at his birth-place in Brittany.

Lejean's narrative of his journey in Abyssinia was designed chiefly as a descriptive companion to the atlas of maps which show the topography of his lines of route, and in this respect it has a high geographical and ethnographic value. But it also possesses a more general interest as a graphic recital of the events in the career of the strange King Theodore, which formed a middle period between his first successes and his ultimate downfall and tragic end. The traveller made his way into Abyssinia from the western side, going in an almost direct line from Khartum, by Matamma and the northern side of Lake Tsana, to the hill camp of Debra Tabor in the centre of Abyssinia, then the headquarters of King Theodore. His first interview with the king took place at the neighbouring village of Gafat, which Theodore had given over to the Europeans then in his service, and whither he had gone to witness the testing of a mortar which had just been completed. At the audience granted next day at Debra Tabor, Theodore remarked with suspicion that the letters from the French Government were signed "Thouvenel," and not "Napoleon." But at first all went well, and Lejean was able by frequent excursions in the vicinity of the camp to map out accurately a large portion of the central province. War having been declared against the rebellious chief of the southern province of Godjam, Lejean, with other Europeans from Gafat, were required to follow the movements of Theodore's army in a raid, carrying fire and sword into the insurgent country as far as the centre of the peninsula of mountains round which the Abai flows after leaving the Lake Tsana. From this country Theodore's army, demoralized rather than beaten, was compelled to retreat. The campaign over, Lejean found orders awaiting him to repair to the port of Massowa, on the Red Sea, and he imprudently demanded an audience of the king. Exasperated by defeat, and learning that the Egyptians were about to invade his northern provinces, Theodore, in place of granting Lejean the desired leave to depart, ordered him to be imprisoned, and heavily chained. A new humour of Theodore released him from captivity, and gave him permission, as a prisoner on parole, to go whither he would in the central part of the kingdom. Taking advantage of this liberty, Lejean visited the eastern and southern shores of Lake Tsana, and journeyed thence northward to Gondar, the capital city, before returning to Gafat. Political events now led Theodore to move with his army to Gondar, and in the September of 1863 all the Europeans of Gafat had orders to repair thither. They found Gondar in a state of great agitation; the king inhabited its palace, and his army was encamped on the heights to westward; he was waiting for the English Consul, Cameron, and a messenger, whom he had sent to Paris to bring a reply from the French Government. At length this messenger arrived, and the letter was opened at an audience, all the Europeans being present; but the missive lacked the imperial seal, and Theodore, to defy the French Government, threw the letter at his feet, and pronounced sentence of Lejean's expulsion from Abyssinia. Never was a command more acceptable or more fortunate. Consul Cameron had laughingly said to Lejean on meeting, "Well, colleague, are the king's chains heavy?" little thinking that in a few weeks he himself was to prove their weight. The traveller's route to northward lay across the Lamalmon, a grassy and undulating slope on the southern side, but on the north an abrupt and terrible line of cliffs; then by Axum and Adowa to the coast. His escape was a narrow one, but it was not till later that Lejean knew that Theodore in a changed mood had sent men to follow and bring him back to Gondar, saying, "The man has escaped me, and I do not yet know whether he is a friend or an enemy."

Although Lejean's routes rarely if at any point touch upon new ground, since the whole country which he traversed had been described either by Bruce, Ruppell, D'Abbadie, Beke, or Heuglin in former years, they yet form a very valuable supplement to the work of these travellers, and must henceforward be considered an important geographical "material" for the delineation of the eastern side of the Abyssinian plateau. The maps of his atlas, drawn for the most part on the large scale of three miles to an inch, bear evidence of a minute record of every detail and accident of the ground. In laying down these routes, however, Lejean has depended entirely upon the astronomical positions determined by former travellers; if he had been able to make such observations independently from point to point, the value of his work would have been more than doubled. "Lejean saw rather the inspiration than the true science of topography."

A sketch of the history of Abyssinia before the sixteenth century is appended to the descriptive part of M. Lejean's work, and is an attempt to critically adjust the information given by native chronicles with the known history of the surrounding countries at that period. It traces the progress of the country from the earliest dawn of civilization down to the time when it was first visited by Europeans, and displays a great amount of careful research.

We are glad to observe in a note on the title page of the descriptive volume that M. Lejean's correspondence and manuscripts have been collected and arranged, and that the publication of his geographical and historical works is to be continued. His materials for the geography of European Turkey must be especially rich and valuable.

KEITH JOHNSTON.

Notes on Scientific Work.

Geography.

Western Mongolia.—The route map, made during the Russian trade expedition of 1870 under Matusovski and Pavlinov in Western Mongolia, a copy of which is published in *Petermann's Mittheilungen*, gives a fresh proof of the incessant activity of Russia in extending its scientific knowledge of and commercial relations with the districts far south of its present Asiatic possessions. The track followed passes round the margin of the chief basin of continental drainage in Western Mongolia, which includes the lakes Ubsa and Kirgis-nor as its central points. From the outpost of Suok, near the boundary of the Siberian government of Tomsk, the travellers went nearly due east by Kobdo to Uliastai; then turning to the north-west they crossed the range of the Tannu-ola, and reached the Russian territory again at Ussa, on a small tributary of the Yenisei in the government of Yeniseisk. The whole distance traversed is about 700 miles. We may expect to have important and fresh information on this region from the English traveller Mr. Ney Elias, who has just returned to England after a splendid tour across Mongolia from the Chinese side.

South Africa.—Letters received by Dr. Petermann from African merchants, and published in the *Mittheilungen*, communicate the important information that Portuguese traffic on the Zambezi has again sprung into activity, and encourage the hope of a speedy opening up of this almost unknown basin. Zumbo, a station on the north side of the Zambezi, about 450 miles in a direct line from the mouth of the river, was a complete ruin when Dr. Livingstone passed it in 1856. It was again occupied by the Portuguese in 1861, and has become the centre of a brisk traffic with the districts watered by the northern tributary rivers Aruanga and Cafue. Other factories have since been founded higher up the river as far as the mouth of the Cafue. On the other hand the hold which the Portuguese retain of their possessions in Western Africa appears to have been much loosened of late years; their authority is said to have almost disappeared on the lower Congo, whilst southward the whole district of the Dembo tribes in central Angola is in open revolt against Portuguese rule. The only route that now appears to be open to an expedition going inland from that side is that which has already been twice traversed by Dr. Livingstone, as well as by other travellers, from Loanda eastward to Cassange on the Quango river, which is still under Portuguese dominion. It seems probable, under these circumstances, that the English expedition of the Lieutenants

Grandy, now perhaps on its way inland from Loanda, may have been compelled to take this course to gain the interior instead of that projected at leaving, which lay to north-east from the starting point on the coast towards the Congo.

New Guinea.—The advantages to be derived from an English occupation or colonization, from the side of Australia, of that unclaimed portion of the vast and rich island of New Guinea which lies east of the 141st meridian of longitude, the recognized Dutch boundary, seem again to demand notice. A pamphlet recently published at Rome by Signor Guido Cora,* the editor of a new geographical publication named the *Cosmos*, has a special interest at this time. It describes the Italian voyage of exploration to New Guinea under Signor Odoardo Beccari, now in progress, and gives a sketch of our present knowledge of the geography of the chief island and its surrounding islets, with useful references to the works of the voyagers on whom we are dependent for information respecting it, from the time of its discovery by the Portuguese navigator Don José de Menezes in 1526. The scheme of exploring the eastern part of New Guinea for the purposes of colonization was first projected by the English in 1866. In 1867 an attempt was made at Sydney to organize a company to colonize the island, but the plan failed chiefly through the opposition raised by the Rev. Tension Wood in various articles published at that time in the *Australasian* journal of Melbourne. The subject was again taken up in 1869, when a proposal for a new exploration of New Guinea, on behalf of the German colonists in the Antipodes, was made by Dr. Petermann in his *Mittheilungen*. In the following year the Russian scientific voyage of Nicolaus Michukh-Maclay was announced, and the exploration of New Guinea formed a chief part of its programme.† At this time also Sir Charles Nicholson, in a paper read before the Royal Geographical Society, and in 1871 by articles in the *Australasian*, drew public attention to New Guinea as a field for exploration and trade. Dutch jealousies having been awakened by these proposals, despatches were sent to the Governor-General of the colonies at Batavia, ordering him to send a vessel to take formal possession of the eastern coasts of the island. In consequence of this mandate the steamship "Dasson" was sent in 1871. The ship visited Macleure Bay, then Dorey on the west side of Geelvink Bay, and reached as far as Humboldt Bay, in 140° east longitude, on the north coast of New Guinea. The expedition was planned to visit the whole of the north coast, but a dangerous malady common on these coasts, and known as Beri-Beri, broke out among the crew, and compelled the commander to return without having accomplished his mission. Torres Strait, where it separates the northmost settlement of Queensland at Port Simpson from the south shore of New Guinea, is scarcely sixty miles in width, and is one of the chief gateways to the Pacific.

Zoology.

Spontaneous division in Star-fishes.—Mr. C. Lütken, of Copenhagen, so well known for his important researches on the Natural History of certain groups of the Echinoderms, has recently laid before the Royal Academy of Copenhagen the results of some very interesting and valuable investigations on the spontaneous division of the star-fishes and brittle-stars. Professor Verrill has recently described a new genus of brittle-star, *Ophiethela*, all the known species of which possess a number of arms greater or less than five, generally six, and in some few instances three or two; very rarely indeed does the normal number of five make its appearance. Lütken describes a new species of this genus, *O. isidicola*, on a certain number of specimens of which he finds six nearly equal arms, but in the majority of these specimens there is a marked difference between the three arms on one side of the body and the three arms on the other; in another set the difference is still more marked, the one set of three arms being quite small and the other of the ordinary size. In others, again, this difference is extended to the disk itself, and it looks as if it had been cut in two by a knife. In all these cases there can be little doubt that these appearances result from a primary division and then a regeneration of the parts that had been divided off. It becomes an interesting question how often such division could take place in any individual; without being able to pronounce any positive opinion on this point, Lütken inclines to the belief that up to a certain age it can be repeated several times. Allowing that the faculty of regeneration is very great among the ophiuroids (a disk of an ophiura deprived of all its arms will sometimes under favourable circumstances renew them all), still the phenomenon witnessed in *ophiethela* differs from a mere casual renewal of lost parts of an accidental lesion; there is a regularity and symmetry about it which certainly points to a true natural spontaneous division having for its object the multiplication of the individual. It must not be forgotten, moreover, that Profs. Steenstrup and Sars have observed the same phenomena in certain small ophiuroids with six arms, especially among

* *Spedizione Italiana alla Nuova Guinea*; Cenni di Guido Cora. Roma: Civelli.

† An interesting extract from a letter written from the coast of New Guinea by M. Nazimoff, commander of the "Vitzia," the chief vessel of the Russian expedition, is communicated to the *Bulletin de la Société de Géographie* for January, by M. Elise Reclus.

species of the genus *Ophiactis* that live intertwined among corals and sponges, nor that the truth of their observations has been confirmed by Lütken himself. In one or two species of another genus, *Ophiocoma* (*O. pumila*), the same thing occurs; in these instances it becomes clearly apparent that in young individuals only this agamic form of reproduction takes place, and that with the adult forms the results of the division are truly sexual. Similar phenomena have been remarked in certain *Asteride*, notably in *Asterias problema* Stps., and in some allied species described by Verrill, as well as in *Linckia ornithopus* and *Ophidiaster cribrarius*. Lütken is of opinion that though there are many cases where the spontaneous division is merely gemmation more or less disguised, there are likewise many instances in which it is, so to speak, simple division and nothing else. In the case of the ophiuroids and asteroids he inclines to think it a normal form of multiplication, which takes the place of gemmation. It would have a near relationship to the power of regeneration on the one hand, and to that of gemmation on the other; and while it may not always be possible to clearly define the exact limits of these "powers," it is convenient to preserve to "Schizogony" an independent place among the different forms of agamic multiplication. The classifying of the phenomena above alluded to as occurring in the ophiuroids and asteroids in the category of "Schizogony," conclusively indicates, in short, that there is in this spontaneous division something altogether different from gemmation. The following general propositions are laid down by Lütken:—1. The most energetic manifestation of the faculty of regeneration in animals is the power of divisibility; 2. In certain forms of Radiates, in which the faculty of regeneration is very highly developed, spontaneous division takes place only, as in aphiuroids and asteroids, or together with gemmation as in Actinia; 3. Actual spontaneous division or Schizogony in the Actinia, Medusa asteroids and ophiuroids, which must not be confounded with the disguised form of gemmation met with in Infusoria and certain hetopods, may be regarded as a peculiar form of agamic reproduction, such as Blastogony, Sporogony, and Parthenogony.

Researches on the Anatomy of the Limuli.—M. A. Milne-Edwards, who has studied more particularly the circulatory and nervous systems of the king-crabs, holds the following views regarding the affinities of these animals:—The Limuli differ much less from the scorpions than from the crustaceans proper that form a portion of the recent fauna; and in a natural system they cannot be associated in the same class with the latter animals. Nor, on the other hand, can they be referred to the arachnids, from which they differ not only by their mode of respiration, but also by their compound eyes, absence of frontal appendages, continuous prolongation of the ventral appendicular series on the adjacent portion of the abdomen, and by several other peculiarities of organization. They differ also from all the other articulate animals in the arrangement of the circulatory system; and consequently, in spite of the small number of species in this group, they must be regarded as a distinct class intermediate between Crustacea and Arachnida. In former geological epochs the type from which the king-crabs are derived was represented by animals the general form of which approached still more that of the scorpions, for instance, by the gigantic *Pterygotus* and *Eurypterus*; and it has been well demonstrated by Mr. H. Woodward that all these animals form a natural group for which the name of *Merostomata* may be retained; but, in the author's opinion, they should not be confounded with the crustaceans, as is commonly done. The *Merostomata* were contemporaneous with the trilobites; and it would appear that there exist not only points of very great resemblance between these two groups, but also intermediate forms, by which a passage from one to the other is established. Therefore, some authors have thought proper to unite them under a common name; but this appears to M. Milne-Edwards to be at least premature, as it is impossible to pronounce legitimately a view on this point before we have a fuller knowledge of the appendicular system of the trilobites; and the author considers it to be very probable that the trilobites differ from the crustaceans proper as much as the *Merostomata* do, and that they should likewise form a distinct class. (*Annales des Sciences Naturelles*. Ser. 5, Art. 4, pp. 67, with 16 plates.) (We refer our readers for articles on the same subject to Vol. iii. of the *Academy*, viz., to one by Van Beneden, p. 30, and to another by Prof. Owen, p. 73.)

Harvesting Ants and Trap-door Spiders.—Notes and Observations on their habits and dwellings. By J. Traherne Moggridge. 1873. This is one of those few admirable little books the contents of which are as attractive to the general reader as interesting to the zoologist, on account of the originality of investigation. As indicated by the title, the book is divided into two parts. In the first part the author, whose observations were made at Mentone, shows that the accounts of the ancients, discredited by modern naturalists, of ants collecting and storing grain and other seeds for food, are strictly true with regard to certain species of southern Europe. It is singular that one of these species is an ant very common in central Europe (*Atta structor*), the habits of which have been studied by numerous observers, but which has never been seen to gather seeds of plants. None of the seeds found in their granaries germinate whilst they remain there, but they produce

vigorous plants when removed and sown in a proper locality. In the second part Mr. Moggridge describes the trap-door spiders and their various kinds of nests as observed by him at Mentone. Besides the ordinary kind, the author has discovered another with two doors, one of which is lower down the tube, and a third in which the spider constructs a branch tube opening at an acute angle into the main tube, and likewise closed by a hinged door. The illustrations with which the book is embellished are from the author's own hands, and are executed with great skill and neatness. We understand that Mr. Moggridge has deposited specimens of the animals and their nests in the British Museum and that they are exhibited in one of the public galleries.

The University Press of Cambridge, Mass., has just issued the *Illustrated Catalogue of the Museum of Comparative Zoology at Harvard College*. No. VII. *Revision of the Echini*. By Alexander Agassiz. Parts I. and II. The author of this work has evidently made himself thoroughly acquainted with the collections of Klein, Lamarck, Gray, and others. The preliminary part on nomenclature is especially valuable, but some readers will desire that in the preparation of this catalogue less attention had been devoted to nomenclature, and more to the description of the actual characters of specimens. It is illustrated by a number of maps, showing the areas of species, and forty-nine excellent plates, some lithographic drawings, and some autotype representations of American specimens.

It is with extreme regret that we have to announce the death of Mr. Julius Brencley, of Maidstone, at the comparatively early age of fifty-six years. His love for adventure, and a deep interest for ethnographical and natural history pursuits induced him to commence in the year 1849 a series of travels, which may be said to have only terminated in 1867. He went first to North America, which he traversed in every direction, then to the Sandwich-Islands, revisited North America, whence he turned southwards to follow the tract of the Andes as far as Chili. After a short excursion to Algeria and Morocco, Mr. Brencley started for a second long journey to the East, crossing India to the borders of Thibet, visiting China, Japan, Australia, and New Zealand. In 1865 he accompanied Commodore Sir W. Wiseman in H.M. ship "Curaçoa" in a cruise through the waters of the South Pacific; and it is an account of this part of his travels, and a description of the collections made by him on that occasion, which he intended to give to the public in a work that has been the employment and recreation of the last few years of his life, and which, at the time of his death, was ready for publication. From this last journey he returned home through China, Mongolia, and Siberia. The vast collections illustrating natural history and ethnography which he formed have been deposited by him in the British and Maidstone Museums. The latter institution was an object of his constant solicitude, and the munificence with which he embellished and enriched it for the benefit of his native town has not been surpassed in the annals of any provincial museum.

Chemistry.

New Vesuvian Minerals.—Scacchi has published a preliminary notice (*Rendiconto Accad. Sci. fis. e mat. di Napoli*, Fasc. 10, 1872) on some new minerals occurring in the lava and bombs of the eruption in April last year. Red deliquescent orthorhombic crystals were very often met with, of erythrosiderite, $4 \text{ KCl}, \text{Fe}_2 \text{Cl}_6, 2 \text{ H}_2\text{O}$. A red sublimation, associated with sal-ammoniac, on the lava of S. Sebastiano proved to be kremsite, $2 \text{ H}, \text{N}, \text{Cl}, 2 \text{ KCl}, \text{Fe}_2 \text{Cl}_6, 3 \text{ H}_2\text{O}$. Chlorocalcite was found on a large bomb which had been carried by the lava current as far as Massa di Somma; it consists of very deliquescent somewhat transparent and often violet-tinged crystals exhibiting the faces of the cube, octahedron and rhombic dodecahedron. They contain 58.76 per cent. of calcium chloride, the remainder being made up of the chlorides of potassum, sodium and manganese. Calcium chloride and manganese chloride therefore are isomorphous with the chlorides of the alkaline metals. Hydrofluoric acid has again been detected among the emanations of the volcano, and the slag of the fumaroles when placed over potassium carbonate under glass covers corrodes the glass and converts the carbonate into a mixture of chloride and fluoride. Cupromagnesite, $(\text{Cu Mg}) \text{SO}_4, 7 \text{ H}_2\text{O}$, occurs in thin bluish-green crusts. When recrystallized from water it yields monoclinic crystals isomorphous with ferrous sulphate and containing seven equivalents of water. The crystals of sal-ammoniac of this eruption, besides exhibiting faces of the cube, octahedron, rhombic dodecahedron and leucitohedron, has been met with in the form having forty-eight faces (321). The yellow colour of some of the crystals is attributed to the presence of a basic chloride of iron.—Scacchi found lava in the shape of green transparent plant threads, in which little rounded masses were entangled, and resembling in every respect the Pêl's Hair of Mauna Loa. Rammelsberg has analyzed (*Ber. Deut. Geol. Gesell. Berlin*, xxiv., 3 Heft) the ashes which fell at La Cércola, and finds they have the same composition as the lava. He directs attention, "als Curiosum," to a paper read before the Chemical Section of the British Association at Brighton last year by G. Gladstone, in which it is asserted that this dust consists of magnetite and quartz, and that by treatment with acid a residue of pure quartz is obtained.

Rammelsberg has found that nearly forty per cent. of the ash enters into the composition of neither of these minerals, and that forty-five per cent. of the insoluble portion is not silica but oxides of metals.

The Refractive Powers and Boiling Points of the Sulphur Derivatives of Carbonic Ether.—E. Wiedemann (*Jour. prakt. Chem.*, 1872, No. 19 and 20, 453) has determined the refractive indices of the following derivatives of carbonic ether, (C H₃)₂ CO, formed by the replacement of one, two or three atoms of the oxygen of that substance by sulphur :

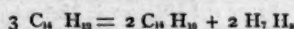
- | | | | |
|------|----|---|---------------------------------|
| I. | CO | { | S C ₂ H ₅ |
| | | { | O C ₂ H ₅ |
| II. | CO | { | S C ₂ H ₅ |
| | | { | S C ₂ H ₅ |
| III. | CS | { | O C ₂ H ₅ |
| | | { | O C ₂ H ₅ |
| IV. | CS | { | S C ₂ H ₅ |
| | | { | O C ₂ H ₅ |
| V. | CS | { | S C ₂ H ₅ |
| | | { | S C ₂ H ₅ |

Of these I. and III., as well also as II. and IV., are isomeric. In each instance the index of refraction increases with the introduction of sulphur in the place of oxygen, the increment being the greater the larger the amount of sulphur already present in the compound. *Ceteris paribus* the index of compounds containing CS as radicle exceeds that of analogous compounds in which the radicle CO occurs. Again, the index increases by the replacement of first one and then two atoms of the remaining oxygen of the compound, and the effect in the latter case exceeds that due to the introduction of sulphur in place of oxygen in the radicle. The isomeric compounds I. and III., and likewise II. and IV., have quite different indices, and in each case that compound has the greater index the sulphur of which is present in the radicle. The position then of the sulphur atom materially affects the magnitude of the refractive index. The boiling points of these compounds have been determined by F. Salomon (*Ibid.*, 433), and he has found that, the radicle being the same, the introduction of an atom of sulphur in every instance raises the boiling point of the ether 40°C. The exceptional increase in the case of carbonyldioxydiethyl and carbonyloxysulphodiethyl of 31° may be ascribed to a condensation attending the introduction of sulphur. A rise of boiling point of 4–5° attends the introduction of sulphur into the radicle.

The Reactions of the Alkaloids with Sugar and Sulphuric Acid.—It is proposed by R. Schneider (*Jour. prakt. Chem.*, No. 19 and 20, 455) to make use of the bright colours developed by the contact of certain alkaloids with sugar and concentrated sulphuric acid as a means for determining their presence. Morphia under these conditions strikes a fine purple, 0.00001 gramme of this alkaloid distinctly exhibiting this reaction. After the lapse of ten minutes the colour turns to a bluish violet. Codeine undergoes the same change, which however is best shown with less concentrated acid. Narcotine and narceine give no characteristic reaction; and the same is true of the cinchona bases. Aconitine develops a fine rose colour which rapidly becomes of a dirty violet. Delphinine, chelerythrine and chelidione also show characteristic colour reactions.

An Isomer of Hydrocyanic Acid.—With the object of testing the action of anhydrous hydrocyanic acid on epichlorhydrin O. Lange (*Ber. Deut. Chem. Gesell. Berlin*, 1873, No. 3, 99) enclosed these substances in a glass tube and exposed them to sunlight. At the end of three months the mixture had become solid and black. The carbonaceous mass after extraction with water yielded by treatment with ether a new substance, which when purified formed crystals of a reddish-brown colour by reflected light, a garnet red by transmitted light; some of them were 2 mm. in length. Analysis showed it to have a composition expressed by the formula C₂NH. The solution of this body has a neutral reaction and undergoes decomposition when heated, with a separation of a humus-like flocculent substance. The crystals on being heated decrepitate and emit the odour of hydrocyanic acid. An aqueous solution when treated with baryta gives off ammonia and deposits a considerable amount of carbonate of baryta, the liquid containing a body possessing a sweet taste and all the properties of glycocholl. Analysis appears to confirm this. The author explains the reaction in the following way : C₂H₃N₃ + Ba H₂O₃ + 3 H₂O = C₂H₃N₃O₃ + Ba CO₃ + 2 N H₂.

Synthesis of Phenanthrene.—C. Graebe having recently observed that carbazol is formed when diphenylamine is passed through red hot tubes, it appeared probable to him that stilbene, if submitted to similar treatment, might yield phenanthrene. This he has now found to be the case. (*Ber. Deut. Chem. Gesell. Berlin*, 1873, No. 3, 125.) Stilbene was passed through a strongly heated tube filled with fragments of glass, and the products were collected. No hydrogen is given off, but a considerable amount of toluol is formed. On distilling the mixed condensed substances the latter passed over at 110–120° and the temperature then rapidly rose to 310–340°. To identify this body with phenanthrene some of it was oxidized, and the oxanthracene formed gave on analysis numbers that accorded with the formula C₁₄H₈O. The author explains the decomposition of stilbene in the following way :



Moreover dibenzyl furnishes under similar circumstances phenanthrene in addition to stilbene and toluol.

Anhydrous Liquefied Ammonia.—A great number of experiments have been made by G. Gore (*Proc. Royal Soc.*, No. 141, 140) to test the behaviour of this liquid towards other substances, 250 different solids and liquids, simple and compound, having been placed in contact with it. In by far the greater number of cases no action takes place. Iodine liquefies and then forms a clear and slightly yellow solution. Liquid C Cl₄ mixes perfectly with the ammonia and is left behind after evaporation. Sulphur dissolves sparingly, liquid chloride of sulphur becomes dark red and solid in the gas and purple in the liquid. Bisulphide of carbon turns yellow and opaque in the gas, and in the liquid ammonia it is changed into a bulky yellow solid. The perchlorides of phosphorus and arsenic are each converted into white solids with manifest chemical action. Oxide of silver swells visibly, but does not dissolve; nitrate of silver is freely taken up and is deposited on evaporation in long crystalline needles. Iodide of silver dissolves rapidly and freely; the chloride and phosphate are insoluble and undergo no chemical change. The chlorides of mercury dissolve readily and the sulphate of this metal imparts a violet colour to the liquid. Thallium undergoes no change, but lithium, potassium, sodium or rubidium induces strong action and forms a deep indigo-blue coloured liquid; the presence of one of the chlorides of carbon prevents the development of this colour. Chloride of ammonium dissolves very freely and does not crystallize till nearly all the liquid has evaporated.

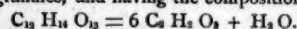
Synthesis of Naphthalene.—This has been accomplished by B. Aronheim by passing bromide of phenyl-butylene in the form of vapour through a tube, filled with caustic lime and raised to a low red heat. Scarcely any charring takes place, and the oily product which crystallizes on cooling is easily identified by its properties with naphthalene. The decomposition is thus effected :



The gas which escapes was found to be hydrogen. As the bromide has been formed synthetically the synthesis of naphthalene has thus been accomplished.

By reducing erythrite with formic acid A. Henniger has obtained (*Revue scientifique*, 15th February, 1873, 785), in addition to the glycol C₂H₄O₂, that has already been described, a hydrocarbon which is absorbed by bromine and produces a solid bromide. This body is tetrabromide of crotonylene, C₄H₆Br₄. It fuses at 116 and sublimes without decomposition. Heated with water it saponifies, forming a compound soluble in that liquid.

Writing last month from Florence, H. Schiff describes (*Ber. Deut. Gesell. Berlin*, 1873, No. 3, 143) a peculiar condensation product of glyoxal. It is formed by adding some hydrochloric acid to a solution of glyoxal in acetic acid and exposing the mixture to a gentle heat for some days. It forms a brilliant white powder, bearing a great resemblance to starch granules, and having the composition indicated below :



It is almost insoluble in ordinary solvents, and is distinguished by its great stability. The new compound he believes contains only a hydroxyl and no aldehyde group.

At recent meetings of the Royal Society, papers bearing the following titles have been communicated to the Society : "The Synthesis of Aromatic Monamines by Intramolecular Atomic Interchange," by A. W. Hofmann ; "A New Method for producing Amides and Nitriles," by E. A. Letts ; and "Colouring Matters derived from Aromatic Azodiamines (part ii., Safranin)," by A. W. Hofmann and A. Geyger. These contributions to the *Proceedings of the Royal Society* were already some months previously communicated to another society, the German Chemical Society of Berlin. The first two, reproduced in the *Chemical News*, January 3rd, appears in the *Ber. Deut. Chem. Gesell. Berlin*, 13th August, 1872, 704 and 669, and the last, reprinted in the *Chemical News*, December 27th, is in the *Berichte*, 24th June, 1872, 526.

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- BERENDT, G. Die Pommerellischen Gesichtsurten. Berlin : Friedländer.
- BOREL, V. Le Nervosisme et les affections nerveuses fonctionnelles. Neuchâtel : Sandoz.
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- DELESSE ET DE LAPPARENT, MM. Révue de Géologie pour les années 1867, 1868, et 1869. Paris : Cusset.

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History.

Études sur l'antiquité historique, d'après les sources Égyptiennes et les monuments réputés préhistoriques. Par F. Chabas. Paris: Maisonneuve et Cie. 1872.

THE object of M. Chabas' work is to protest against the conclusions at which some of the disciples of Præhistoric Archaeology have arrived, and to bring the light of Egyptian history to bear upon epochs hitherto reputed to be præhistoric. M. Chabas, long well known as one of the foremost and most trustworthy explorers of Egyptian antiquity, had his attention drawn to præhistoric speculation in the year 1865 by the accidental discovery of two flint knives embedded in the bank of the river Saone, at a spot situated some distance above the town of Chalon. Continuing his researches he subsequently found immense numbers of objects of antiquity of various kinds, and was able to form his own conclusions as to the manner in which they had been deposited. Other explorers were meanwhile engaged in the same pursuit, and it is perhaps not to be wondered that different opinions have been arrived at as to the epochs at which the various beds which have revealed themselves have been formed. M. Chabas inclines to a much more modern origin for the Saone formations than some other explorers attribute to them, and he shows good reason for doubting the distinctions of ages which have been made. His reasonings apply, however, only to conclusions drawn from the nature of the objects found, and he guards himself from being supposed to contest those drawn from purely geological considerations.

The term præhistoric is one open to much misconception. What is anterior to historic records in one country may be synchronous with a historical epoch in another, and in fact some parts of the globe are even to the present day in their præhistoric period. In Europe all beyond seven or eight hundred years B.C. lies in præhistoric darkness, while in

Egypt the clear light of history stretches back to 3,000 if not 4,000 years B.C. Whatever view we may ultimately arrive at as to the absolute antiquity of man upon our earth, it cannot be otherwise than useful in our inquiries to have a clear perception of the distance to which history in one part at least of the world really goes back, and of the state of civilization which it presents in its earliest strata. Up to the present moment the vision of nearly the entire educated world is limited by a chronology founded upon Greek and Hebrew records. Bunsen's well-founded idea of taking Egypt as the standard of all historical chronology has hardly emerged beyond the small circle of professed Egyptologists. It is true that exactitude cannot be pretended to in calculating the duration of the Egyptian dynasties; but the relative places of all are well determined, and there are records, for the most part contemporary monuments, amply sufficient to fill out 4,000 years. What is most remarkable is that at a very early point, nearly the extreme point at which monuments commence, the culture of the Egyptians is found already at the highest pitch of perfection, and the later ages gradually retrograde from the standard thus early attained. A clear recognition of this fact is certainly indispensable to any sound discussion of the archæological phenomena of Europe and the shores of the Mediterranean. It must at least be a problem worth considering, whether the stone and bronze epochs, which in Europe lie beyond the range of history, were anterior to or coeval with that resplendent period of Egyptian civilization which lies 3,000 years before the Christian era, or with some part of the long period of growing civilization which preceded it, or whether they may not extend very much later down towards the time when Greece first gained historic consciousness.

It is to lay a foundation for considerations such as these that M. Chabas has put together a series of disquisitions upon a variety of points connected with Egyptian civilization, and which may be taken as embodying the conclusions at which the soundest Egyptological inquirers have up to the present moment arrived upon the several points discussed.

In his first chapter M. Chabas shortly summarizes the various chronological schemes of Egyptian history which have been put forward, and judiciously rejecting all pretensions to minute accuracy, where the materials for accurate calculation do not exist, accepts as most probable the view that the reign of Menes, the limit of historical time, may be placed 4,000 B.C., with a præhistoric background of three or four thousand years for the unrecorded growth which brought Egypt to the point of civilization at which we then find her. The second chapter discusses the metals known to the Egyptians, in relation to which we will only note that M. Chabas maintains that iron and even steel must have been in use in the earliest times, although it must be admitted that the specimens preserved are few and the evidence of their antiquity defective. The Egyptian names of the various metals have been recently much discussed by both Lepsius and Dümichen, and some questions must still be considered as *sub judice*.

A chapter follows on the implements and arms of the ancient Egyptians, with which they are found as completely furnished at the earliest as at the latest periods of which we have record.

The longest and most interesting chapter in the book is that upon the nations known to the ancient Egyptians. In the very earliest times there is but little evidence of intercourse between Egyptian and surrounding nations. Yet the northern people, the dwellers on the shores of the Mediterranean, are mentioned as early as the fourth dynasty. In later times the races of the world were divided roughly into four—the Egyptians, Negroes, Asiatics, and North

Africans (the last probably including the peoples of Europe). Recent discoveries have shown that in the nineteenth dynasty (fourteenth century B.C.) the Sardinians, Sicilians, Etruscans, Lycians, and Achæans joined with the Lybians in an invasion of Egypt, and to these M. Chabas now adds Daunians, Oscans, Teucrians, and Pelasgi.

The people called in Egyptian spelling Tzakriu were supposed by the late Dr. Hincks to be the tribe of Issachar. Others have quartered them elsewhere, but the identification with the Teucrians seems well-grounded. The Dardans were already known as figuring in the campaign of Rameses II. The people called Purista or Pulista have been hitherto taken for Philistines, but there is little more to support the view than the resemblance of names. The Pulista as drawn on the monuments are not of Asiatic type, and they are expressly said in one record to have come with the Tuirsha (Etruscans) from the midst of the sea. We have little doubt that in Pulista we have a form of the name Πελασγοί, and thus this mysterious people is brought into the full light of history, with its arms, costume, and accoutrements. The picture of a naval conflict between the Egyptians and the Pelasgi Teucrians and their allies, one or two hundred years before the presumed date of the Trojan war, although not a very choice specimen of Egyptian art, is worthy in many respects of the attention of Homeric commentators. Another picture of a skirmish between the Sardinian mercenaries of Egypt with the Pelasgian and Teucrian invaders, shows us that these people brought with them their wives and children, and we have representations of the carts drawn by oxen in which they carried them. This would seem to indicate that some of the invaders contemplated permanent settlement in Egypt.

In a chapter devoted to the stone arms and implements used by the Egyptians, M. Chabas shows that flint knives, saws, and cutting instruments were not only in use in the earliest periods of Pharaonic history, but that they continued to be employed under the Greeks, Romans, and Arabs; nay, that their use is not wholly extinct at the present day. Tools of flint appear to have been used almost exclusively in the working of the copper or turquoise mines of Sinai, under the early Pharaohs. In Egypt itself immense numbers of flint implements of every kind have been found in the neighbourhood of cities and cemeteries, and it is remarkable that the most finished of these instruments are those to which the highest antiquity is attributable, while those which belong to the Ptolemaic and Roman epochs are of a ruder character. The conclusions which had been hastily drawn as to the extreme antiquity of the immense repositories of flint tools which have been found in the neighbourhood of Thebes, fall to the ground. A great many of the specimens which have been picked up appear to be nothing more than fragments split by natural causes; but a certain number show indubitable marks of human skill. How far back the inhabitants of Egypt may have availed themselves of the rude tools with which Nature furnished them, it is impossible to say; but it is capable of demonstration that they continued to use them in a rough state until the latest times. Thus the prehistoric stations which it was thought had been detected on the barren deserts which lie close to Thebes, Memphis, and the other great cities of the Nile valley, were the repositories of cheap tools for the poorer inhabitants during thousands of years of historic time, and it is impossible to draw from them any conclusions as to the condition of the first settlers in the country.

In the sixth and seventh chapters of his work M. Chabas has brought together much interesting matter as to the horse and the camel, and the knowledge which the Egyptians had

of these animals. Neither of these creatures were indigenous, and they are not mentioned in the earliest monuments.

The last chapter is devoted to a consideration of the localities which have been considered prehistoric, and to M. Chabas' own discoveries in the valley of the Saone. He arrives at the conclusion that science has not hitherto demonstrated a very high antiquity for man antecedent to the historic period. Admitting the force of much of the argument of the learned Egyptologist, we must express our own belief that the antiquity of man rests upon quite other considerations than any that can be drawn from the works which he has left behind him, and that the question is one which lies principally in the sphere of geology. Nor does M. Chabas in fact contest this. But he argues that although man may be proved to have been the contemporary of the reindeer and the mammoth, there is nothing to show that the man of those periods stood at a lower point physically and intellectually than races which have existed in historic periods or even which exist at this day. However this question may ultimately be decided, M. Chabas' work is unquestionably an important and timely contribution towards the consideration of the problems which the recent growth of prehistoric inquiry has raised. C. W. GOODWIN.

Notes and Intelligence.

The Records of the Notaries of the Capitol at Rome.—F. Gregorovius, the historian of the city of Rome in mediæval and modern times, has opened recently some new and highly important sources in intimate connection with his subject. In a paper read before the Historical Section of the Royal Society of Munich (see *Sitzungsberichte der philosophisch-philologischen und historischen Classe der K. B. Academie der Wissenschaften*. 1874. Heft. iv.) he gives a lucid account of the records of the notaries of the capitol at Rome, and especially of the minute-book of the notary Camillo de Beneimbene, from 1467 till 1505. It appears that, whereas formerly the urban notaries were accustomed to preserve their papers in their private chambers, a central record-office was erected on the capitol during the pontificate of Pius IV. (1559-1565). Afterwards by the bull of the 1st June, 1587, Pope Sixtus V. gathered these very ancient public servants into a college, or corporation, with certain office-bearers, and limited it to the number of thirty real members, in which shape it is still flourishing.

Among the volumes of their record-room, representing many centuries, hardly any other excites so much curiosity as the register once kept in a stout quarto volume of 1063 leaves by Camillo de Beneimbene, the fashionable and long-lived notary during the reigns of Paul II., Sixtus IV., Innocent VIII., Alexander VI., Pius III., and during the two first years of Julius II. The book, indeed, abounds in references to the period of the renaissance in general as well as to the private history of its most celebrated contemporaries. A man like Camillo was initiated in all the family transactions of the houses of Rovere, Cibo, Borgia, Medici, Alviano, Orsini, Colonna, and many more. All the successive matrimonial contracts of Donna Lucrezia Borgia, for instance, were drafted and executed by him. In this volume of minutes the whole history of Rome during a most stirring period of transition passes as it were before our eyes. No wonder, therefore, that a scholar like Gregorovius has not only largely excerpted from such treasures, but has selected for publication certain very curious extracts referring generally to the history of Cardinal Roderigo Borgia, afterwards Pope Alexander, his children, their friends and rivals. It is hardly necessary to mention how much light is thrown by these instruments of matrimony, divorce, and inheritance upon the moral history of Italy in the days of her literary and artistic glory.

Now and then, however, there occurs a document of value for foreign history. In 1740, by order of Pope Benedict XIV., the French Government obtained from this volume the original of a solemn act, dated the 6th September, 1494, by which Andreas Paleologus, despot of Romania, ceded to King Charles VIII. of France all his rights to the crown of the Byzantine Empire, an authenticated copy being now inserted in the vacant place.

In the month of March, 1504, Cardinal Adriano Castellesi bequeathed his palace in the Vatican borough to King Henry VII. of England. Some quotations from the instrument drawn up at the time will interest English students of this eventful period:—

"Rmus. in Xpo. pr. et dom. Hadrianus S. R. E. pres. carlis. tit. S. Crisogoni: Ex ratione beneficii. munerum ac meritor. que habuisse et suscepisse in rei veritate recognovit—confessus fuit et in futur. habere et suscipere sperat a Sermo. Dno Henrico Anglie Rege, de sua mera et gratuita voluntate liberalitate et largitate ac omni meliori modo via jure

causa et forma quibus magis et validius et efficacius fieri potest: donavit et donationis titulo. . . . concessit eidem Sermo. D. Henrico Anglie Regi absentii velut presenti et suis heredib. et successorib. et cui vel quibus ipse Sermus. Rex et sui heredes et successores cedere donare et transferre voluerint etiam si pro natione Anglica in urbe Romana vel pro usu et habitatione oratorum sue regie maiestatis ad urbem et roman. curiam proficiscentibus et in urbe et Romana curia residentib. vel aliter quomodocunque et qualitercunque disponere voluerit et sue regie maj. vel suis heredib. et successorib. placuerit. . . . quasdam ipsius donatoris edes et edificia nondum perfecta insigni opere marmor. et lapidum tiburtinor. ornata et ad non parvum Urbis decorem et splendor. de suo proprio et privato peculio et redditib. officior. suor. fabricatas. Que quid. edes site sunt in burgo Basil. B. Petri prin. apostol. in via Alexandrina cognominata per fel. rec. Alexan. pp. vi. noviter constructa, quib. a latere anteriori est dicta via publica Alexandrina, a latere posteriori est via Sixtina prope muros quib. itur ad castrum S. Angeli a latere versus palat. apostolicum est via publica prope domum et hortum Rmi. D. Francisci Carolis. Volaterrani ab alio latere versus castrum S. Angeli est via quam dictus R. D. Carolis. S. Grisogoni dimisit ad effectum quod dicta domus esset in insula prope dom. et hortum bo. me. Carolis. Aleriensis."

It needs hardly be added that the Cardinal's palace is no other building than the beautiful edifice erected by Bramante, known to-day by the name of Palazzo Giraud-Torlonia. For all I know it must have remained the property of the English crown till the days of Clement VII., when Henry VIII. emancipated his realm and church from Papal jurisdiction.

R. PAULI.

It is well known that the *Monumenta Germanica Historica* were started more than fifty years ago under the powerful influence of the great Baron Stein, the necessary funds being supplied by periodical votes in the Diet of the late Germanic Confederation. A learned society, "Die Gesellschaft für ältere deutsche Geschichtskunde," was to superintend the actual work and those engaged upon it. And even to this day there is at Frankfurt a committee of their members acting as trustees of the original founders and representing the rights of the various governments contributing the means, as long as federal principles prevailed in Germany. But not only the re-establishment of the empire under Prussian supremacy necessitates changes in the provision for this important branch of historical literature, but the old age of Dr. Pertz, who from the beginning has conducted the editorship nearly like a monarch, requires much more than a personal substitute. On the one hand the Royal Academy of Berlin is anxious to obtain the supreme direction of this truly national work, of which hardly the fourth part of the original plan has been completed. The public papers state that Professor Lepsius has been deputed by the Academy to settle matters with Dr. Pertz. On the other hand the Frankfurt committee is sure to raise the claims of the founders and contributors. It is, however, to be hoped that both sides may soon agree, as in that case they without doubt will find both the Prussian Government and the Imperial Diet most willing to continue the necessary supply of funds for a new and satisfactory arrangement in the editorial staff.

Since Ranke vacated his chair in the Berlin University and Jaffé died, great and not very successful endeavours have been made to promote the study of history in the capital of Germany. The enormous rise in the expenses of Berlin life are unquestionably in the way. Professor Nitzsch has been induced to remove from Königsberg to Berlin, but Waitz declined to leave Göttingen more than a year ago, and so did lately Dümmler of Halle. Two first-rate men are still required to support Droysen and Nitzsch, one for teaching history methodically, and another for the subservient disciplines of chronology, palaeography, and diplomatics. We are glad to add that according to the latest news Professor Wattenbach, of Heidelberg, has at last agreed to accept the latter chair, which nobody else is so competent to occupy.

On the 9th January died, thirty-five years old, at the vicarage of Leonberg, near Stuttgart, in the house in which both Paulus and Schelling were born, the son of the aged incumbent, Dr. Sigurd Abel, who after having been educated chiefly at Göttingen began to lecture there in mediæval and modern history. Soon after his promotion to a chair in the University of Giessen he was prostrated by a disease of the brain. He published a dissertation on the fall of the Langobardian realm in Italy, 1859; the first volume of the *Annals of the Reign of Charles the Great* for the Historical Commission at Munich, 1866; and, among minor papers, an essay on political parties in England, and the coalition between Fox and Lord North, in Sybel's *Hist. Zeitsch.* xvii.

There has been a rather unusual interruption in the publication of the "Generalstabswerk," the work which is to enshrine the memory of the German-French war of 1870-1 from the point of view of its greatest master, Field-Marshal von Moltke himself. The second "Heft," issued six months after the appearance of the first, treats chiefly of the days from the 1st to the 5th August, 1870, including the insignificant attack on Saarbrücken by the French, and their first defeat at Weissenburg on the 4th. Three excellent maps illustrate the

beginning of the great campaign, and will be undoubtedly reproduced by this time in the various translations preparing for military readers all over the world.

The Archæographical Commission of St. Petersburg is about to publish in that city a new edition of the Chronicle of Nestor according to the Lavrentievsky MS. The text will be accompanied with the principal various readings and a table of contents. It is edited by M. Byckov, chief librarian of the Imperial Library at St. Petersburg.

The second volume of the *Monumenta historica Polonia* by M. Bielovsky has appeared at Lemberg. It contains among other documents extracts from two chronicles of the German Monastery of Zwiefalten, of bulls and letters relating to Poland, fragments of the life of St. Otho of Bamberg, the chronicles of Mierzwa, of Vincent Kadlubek, of Boguchwal, and of John Garukow, and a certain number of year books or *roczniki*.

The Commission appointed by the Ministry of Public Instruction in Russia to arrange and publish the letters and papers of Peter the Great has commenced its labours under the presidency of Count Tolstoi, Minister of Public Instruction. M. Byckov has been chosen secretary of the Commission.

New Publications.

ANZEIGER DER DEUTSCHEN VORZEIT. Organ des germanischen Museums. Neue Folge. 20 Jahrg., 1873. Nürnberg.

CAIRNES, J. E. Essays in Political Economy, Theoretical and Applied. Macmillan.

EWALD, A. C. Life and Times of Algernon Sydney. Tinsley.

FREEMAN, E. A. Second series of Historical Essays. Macmillan.

Philology.

Unexplored Syria. Visits to the Libanus, the Tulul el Safa, the Anti-Libanus, the northern Libanus, and the 'Alah. By Richard F. Burton and Charles F. Tyrwhitt Drake. Two volumes. London: Tinsley Brothers.

In this work Captain Burton communicates the most important results of a stay of almost two years in Syria. The whole of it was occasioned and influenced by him, though only about half comes directly from his pen. What we here receive inspires us with extreme regret that the author was so soon called away from his post in Syria, as well as that his friend Tyrwhitt Drake failed to meet with that support from his countrymen which he had a right to expect. Captain Burton leaves the reader to divine the motives of his antagonists, but we receive the impression that he is fully justified in his complaints. No doubt so impetuous, energetic, and "subjective" a spirit may here and there have given unnecessary offence; the conflict with the Turkish authorities can hardly have arisen simply and solely from their own baseness, and it might at the outset be questionable to entrust a man with the care of English interests in Syria, of whom it could not remain a secret that he had committed that terrible offence in the eyes of a Muslim of having made the pilgrimage to Mecca as a Christian. For all this there seem to have been hostile influences at work which are the reverse of creditable.

It was well known that much yet remained to explore in Syria; yet it is certainly surprising to learn that even regions in the immediate neighbourhood of Bairut and Damascus had so escaped attention that Captain Burton had to make out the character of the ground for the first time. The excursions in Libanus, Anti-Libanus, Trachones, and the 'Alah, described by Mrs. and Mr. Burton and Mr. Tyrwhitt Drake, add much new information about the topography, which will correct the very best maps in essential particulars.

Even one who had never seen Syria might be pretty certain that it was not a land rich in beautiful scenery, and that even the admired Damascus derived its principal charm from its contrast to the desert: but this is not enough for Captain Burton. According to him both Libanus and Anti-Libanus are deficient in almost all the elements of beauty and sub-

limity. The irrigation is generally insufficient; whole districts are completely waterless. Trees were sorely missed; there were only two places in all Syria where Captain Burton saw anything which could be called a forest, viz., on the west slope of Hermon. The famous cedars are represented as "a badly-clad, ill-conditioned, and homely growth; essentially unpicturesque, except, perhaps, when viewed from above." As far as a small but good photograph enables me to judge, the description is not exaggerated. The forms of the mountains too are said to be seldom beautiful or imposing. No doubt the judgment of the author may be somewhat influenced by the fact that he had previously seen the lofty beauty of the Andes. The very similarity of the relation of the double chain of the Andes to the coast extended before it to that of Libanus and Anti-Libanus to Phœnicia could not but make these landscapes seem petty and unattractive. It must be mentioned that Tyrwhitt Drake found beautifully wooded parts in the north of Libanus, which reminded him of northern regions. But even if Captain Burton is somewhat too disparaging towards the beauties of Syria, there have been much greater exaggerations on the other side. He is quite right in ridiculing the malady which he calls "the Holy Land on the brain;" the fascination exercised by religious romance on most cultivated visitors of Syria and Palestine, particularly on the Protestants, and most of all on the English and Americans, a fascination which deludes by the appearance of landscape beauties which have no real existence. It is some excuse that most travellers, coming direct from the dim atmosphere of the north, have their first experience of a transparent air and a clear sky in Syria, so that forms and colours seem quite otherwise to them than at home. Besides, it is not only travellers who are taken ill with "the Holy Land on the brain," but students of that country's literature. What a bright picture is often drawn of the great days of King David, though the repeated revolts and the family dissensions show that it was very questionable felicity.

The sobriety of the author's estimate, however, has not impaired his interest in countries which have been so influential for the weal and woe of humanity. He is well aware of the high importance of Syria, and insists that every inch of the ground should be thoroughly explored. He has examined not only the topography, but the ruins. He too finds that there is very little remaining above ground in Syria of greater antiquity than the time of the Romans. He justly ridicules those who see in the buildings of the Haurân, which are mostly of the Christian period, the cities of the gigantic king Og. It is pointed out that the notion of a greater stature among primitive nations is contrary to all reasonable experience. The only question that remains is, how to explain the wide prevalence of such a view on psychological grounds.

Although the inhabitants of Syria are better known to us than its soil, I cannot help wishing that the author had spoken at greater length about the former; what he gives us only whets the appetite for more. His opinion of the population is on the whole as favourable as his account of the government is the reverse. I almost fear that it is a little too favourable. He tells us himself how untruthful, covetous, and ungrateful the Syrians are. And some of the proverbs of the Damascenes which are published in this work imply a terrible degree of insincerity; e.g. No. 74, "The hand which you cannot bite, kiss it, and pray that it may be broken." It is easy, of course, to make the misgovernment of centuries responsible for such features in their character; at any rate it would be a task of extreme difficulty even for a good government to produce passable fruits from such a soil. We must certainly agree with him, that the roads and rail-

ways of the future will be the principal factors in the civilization and moral elevation of the inhabitants of Syria. He evidently expects more from these than from the activity of the Protestant missionaries. I wish so independent a man had given a public opinion of the real and pretended results of these agents. For the rest, this book furnishes us with additional evidence of the uniform superiority of the Muslims to the Christians in the Semitic countries. Tyrwhitt Drake, in particular, gives a most unfavourable account of the Syrian Christians; he remarks, no doubt with justice, that the reprehensible features in their character stand in a certain relation to their religion (that is, to the form which Christianity has assumed among them). Precisely the same estimate is given of the Copts of Egypt by all good observers, and that these are not only the sad consequences of political and social oppression is clear from the yet lower moral condition of the Abyssinians, who have had a constant succession of national and Christian rulers. It is true that both the United and the non-United Nestorians in the far East are, apparently, more advanced in the moral scale. But the only Christians of the East proper who to all appearance have a real future before them are the non-Semitic Armenians.

There are also very interesting communications on the migration of the Druses to the Haurân. Disgraceful as this migration is for the government, Captain Burton considers it fortunate for the country. The industrious Druse peasants in their easily defensible mountains form a bulwark against the Beduins—for it is still the first requisite of civilization there, as it was in the time of Gideon, that the robbers of the desert should be restrained. It is true, however, that the establishment of the Druses in the ruined cities of the Haurân is fatal to the ancient buildings of which they are composed. He naturally despairs of any changes in the Turkish policy for the advantage of Syria. Yet it is very doubtful whether a native government would be in any respect better than the Turkish. Our own immediate wishes, like those of the author, must be for a really energetic policy on the part of England, for though the influence of the latter is here said to be on the wane, no other power is in a position effectually to advance the interests of culture and progress.

Praiseworthy pains are bestowed on the orthography of Arabic names. Here and there we even observe the use of the Arabic geographers, though it is true that they have not been made to yield their utmost of illustration. I may mention for instance, that the view that *'Anjar* is contracted from *'Air (al-) jarn* is confirmed by Yâkût. The linguistic failings of Captain Burton should have been unmentioned were it not that he takes a capricious pleasure in giving philological explanations, particularly of proper names. Success was all the more improbable, as Arabic is far from sufficient in those regions; in Syria, especially in Lebanon, there are still many Aramaic names. No one can demand of Burton that he should have studied the Semitic languages and antiquity in a strict historical and philological school; but for this very reason he should have been more circumspect in referring to such subjects. A more thorough knowledge, for example, would have prevented him from praising the well-intentioned but wholly unripe work of Dr. Inman, *Ancient Faiths embodied in Ancient Names*.

Among the various appendices I have already mentioned the collection of proverbs of Damascus. They are throughout expressed in the modern dialect; though I have found at least one which, derived from a poem in the classical language, has still preserved even its metrical form (No. 134). The paraphrases and short commentaries will be welcome even to those Arabists who have devoted themselves more than I have done to vulgar Arabic.

The work derives a special importance from its inscriptions. It presents us with the first exact copies of those of Hamah, which would not improbably, even if they contained little but proper names, throw a new light on the ancient history of northern Syria, if we could only decipher the entirely unknown characters in which they are written. Unfortunately there is not the remotest prospect of our being able to do so. The writing consists of several hundred characters, and the language is entirely strange; so that the discovery of bilinguals would be our only hope of success. Without them, it would have been impossible to attempt the decipherment either of the hieroglyphics or of the cuneiform inscriptions. Thankworthy as Mr. Hyde Clarke's statistical data are, his comparison of single characters of these inscriptions with similar ones of known alphabets of an entirely different type is not likely to be more fruitful than his fantastic ethnological hypotheses. Whether the decipherment of the Cyprian inscriptions, which is at least not yet to be despaired of, will throw any light on the stones of Hamah, time alone can show. The conjecture is at any rate justified, that these carefully wrought inscriptions are of extreme age, and belong perhaps to the ancient Cheta (of whose identity, by the way, with the Hittites of the Bible I am not yet thoroughly convinced).

Captain Burton also gives four other Oriental inscriptions, which, however, deserved to be copied more accurately. This is evidently the case with the single Arabic one (vol. ii., plate 1), which is composed in good Kūfi, and must be easy to read in the original. It is the funerary inscription of one 'Abd-assamad b. Marwān al. . . . , and is preceded by two passages of the Koran (Sur. 3, 16; 37, 180-182); I fail to make out the date from the copy. Of the other Arabic inscription (*ibid.*), in the florid Kūfi which was much in vogue at certain times in inscriptions on buildings, all that I can make out for certain is the well-known introductory formula, "In the name of God," &c. As for the inscription at the right hand top corner of the same plate, I am not even certain whether it is Kufic or Nabatean; the drawing given at page 115, vol. ii., is altogether undecipherable. The great mass of Captain Burton's inscriptions are Greek. Some of them had been already given by Waddington and Wetzstein, and since the copies of the former accomplished epigraphist are on the whole, as might be expected, far the best, Mr. Vaux, to whom Captain Burton entrusted them, may be excused for determining not to publish the fresh copies. It would have been still better, however, to print them, since even the best transcript is liable to errors, which another, favoured by a better light or more abundant leisure, may perhaps avoid. It is also important, when a strange or peculiar reading is in question, to have its existence established by more than one copy; this remark applies to the large number of inscriptions which, in spite of the arrangement referred to, are given by Captain Burton as well as by M. Waddington—among them is the long funerary inscription on pp. 160-163 (see Waddington, 2145 a-c, Wetzstein, 129). It is true that the superiority of Waddington's copies is brought out all the more clearly by the comparison; notice, for example, the round Sigma in Burton 147, whereas Waddington 2154 expressly affirms the indented Σ, which is also given in Wetzstein 138. In Burton 56 a whole series of characters is wanting in the middle; see Waddington 2537 a, &c. Unfortunately this overlooking of the inscriptions already published is only a small instance of the manner in which Mr. Vaux has acquitted himself of his task. Captain Burton could not easily have found a man less fitted to edit the inscriptions. His readings abound with blunders which would be discreditable even in a beginner. Words

which are perfectly legible were to him undecipherable. This may give some idea of the probability of his attempts to fill up lacunæ. It is difficult to believe that he has devoted even one careful perusal to M. Waddington's work, besides which he is clearly deficient in the requisite knowledge of facts. I am really astonished that one who belongs to the most Bible-loving of nations is so little at home in the Psalms that he fails to recognize the simplest quotations from them, though they were from the first to be expected in such Christian inscriptions. If, for instance, he had observed that No. 15 is composed of Ps. cxvii. 26, 27 (according to LXX.), lxi. 10, lxi. 4 (*tiase=taiai*), he might have spared his marks of interrogation and erroneous supplements; and so too with No. 24 (Ps. iii. 7, &c.), No. 60 (Ps. cxvii. 1, an appropriate passage, and one that often recurs in inscriptions of this kind), and others. In No. 20 the reading is quite distinct, *δόξα πατρι κα[ι] 'Υ[ι]ω και αγιω πν[ευ]μα. ο βοηθων Σαβ[ι]ν[ω]*, with an error of syntax which is not unfamiliar in these inscriptions for *τω βοηθοντι*. Mr. Vaux, however, reads *δοξα πατρι κα[ι] νηιστω* και αγιω πν[ευ]μα [*πνευματι*] βοηθων [*βοηθει*] Σαβ[ι]ν[ω]—which would produce a new phase in the development of the dogma of the Trinity, according to which the latter was composed of the *πατηρ*, the *Υψιστος*, and the *πνευμα*. But let church historians beware of making use of this discovery! Several inscriptions Mr. Vaux has not been able to read at all, though they can be deciphered either in whole or in part without any great trouble. In short, this whole part of the work is *thoroughly unsatisfactory*, and it is urgent that such important material should soon be thoroughly well edited over again by a competent scholar.

The character of these Greek inscriptions is sufficiently known from Waddington; they supply us in points of detail with many valuable notices. In Burton as in Waddington there are but very few Semitic proper names in the inscriptions from north Syria, while there are several in those from the Hauran and the neighbouring districts, some of which were hitherto unknown. The language of the inscriptions presents the usual peculiarities. If we may rely to some extent on the exactness of the transcriber, No. 136 exceeds all that was previously known in barbarisms of language;—*τουτον μνημιον του Γουζαδου (?) και εκτισεν* (i.e., *εκτισεν*) *α[υ]την Μαξιμα γυνεκα (? = γυνή)*. But it is possible that a few letters have to be supplied after *γν*, and that the first word should be read *τουτο το*. There is one versified inscription (No. 34), which is mutilated at the beginning; it is composed till near the end in iambic trimeters.

The book contains an additional contribution to epigraphy in a discussion of the inscription of King Mesha, which, however, so far as it is new, will scarcely be approved by the best scholars.* Undoubtedly there are a few discrepancies between the inscription and the Old Testament with regard to which the authentic record is naturally of much greater importance than the partly legendary notices; but Captain Burton very greatly exaggerates the magnitude of these discrepancies, not observing that the stone must have been set up before the siege, and before the sacrifice of the king's son. There is no reason at all for doubting the latter event; the raising of the siege was, no doubt, regarded by the Moabites, and indeed the Israelites too, as a result of the assistance which Kamosh, reconciled by the sacrifice, once more vouchsafed to his people. Of more interest are the author's remarks on the melancholy history of the discovery and destruction of the stone. On the whole one must agree with him, though there may be room for difference of opinion on some minor points. It was a piece of negligence, astonish-

* Cf. our remarks on Captain Burton's two papers on the Moabite stone in the *Athenæum* (*Academy*, vol. iii., p. 180).—Ed.

ing even in a missionary, that Mr. Klein took no copy of the inscription; and my distinguished friend Petermann has shown that one can be a most learned man and yet not have the diplomatic gifts which are desirable in such negotiations with Orientals. Everyone who knows the circumstances is convinced that had Dr. Wetzstein been in Mr. Petermann's place, he would have secured the stone. Lastly, it must always be fully admitted that M. Gauneau has the merit of having rescued what remained of the stone to rescue.

Mr. Tyrwhitt Drake's essay on the rules followed by the Jews in writing the Pentateuch-rolls was hardly called for. It is chiefly based on Maimonides, contains scarcely anything new to the scholar, and is unnecessary for the general reader. The well-known Mr. Shapira was here the author's mentor; one is almost led to suspect that he wished to do business with certain Pentateuch-rolls in his possession, which he would make out to be older than the Mishna. That the author of this essay is not accurately informed with regard to the critical questions at issue, that, for instance, he places the *Megillath Sopherim* too early, is an excusable fault.

I can form no judgment as to the value of the purely scientific portions of the work, but may be allowed a suspicion that they might without detriment have been condensed. What, for example, is the good of repeating the tirades of the Abbé Richard (vol. ii., p. 294, &c.) against the high antiquity of the human race?—a fact of which no one is any longer in doubt, except those who are guided by *dogmatic* considerations.

It was only natural to form high expectations of the map attached to the work, especially as a severe judgment is passed on the current maps of Syria. Unfortunately our hopes are disappointed. The scale itself is too small, and the places which occur in the text are not all to be found. The map even embodies views which are rejected in the text of the work, e.g., the identification of the Lithani with the Leontes, against which it may also be urged that, as far as I can see, the name of Leontes does not occur at all in Greek and Latin literature. The map of the 'Aláh, which is referred to in the text, is altogether wanting. At any rate it is to be hoped that a really good map, or rather several maps, will be given in a second edition. The rest of the illustrations are of no great pretensions, but quite adequate to their purpose.

It was inevitable that the review of a book which the author himself calls a *pot-pourri* should present a slightly motley appearance; let me add once more expressly, in conclusion, that the work is, in spite of some defects, a highly meritorious one.

TH. NÖLDEKE.

P.S.—A very interesting section of the work describes the structures to which the lake of Homs is due. It is a remarkable confirmation that the careful writer Abulfidá (circ. 1300 A.D.) describes this lake, which was in his native place, in quite similar terms to those of Mr. Burton, and also affirms its artificial origin. The erection of the great dam is, according to him, attributed by some to Alexander. But Jewish authorities of much greater antiquity (see Neubauer, *Géographie du Talmud*, pp. 24, coll.—though I cannot follow him in his interpretation of many of the passages) say expressly that *Diocletian* laid out the lake of Homs. It would be very desirable that the correctness of this assertion, to which I attribute great authority, should be tested by competent archæologists.

Morkinskinna. Pergaments-bog fra første halvdel af det 13de aarhundrede, indeholdende en af de ældste optegnelser af Norske Konge-Sagaer, udgiven af C. R. Unger. Christiania, 1867. (As a University program).

THE *Morkinskinna*, or the "Rotten Skin," thus called by Torfæus, because of its singed, black, and rotten con-

dition, is now preserved among the Icelandic vellums in the Royal Library at Copenhagen (the Old Collection, No. 1009 fol.), and was brought thither from Iceland in 1662 by Torfæus with ten or twelve other vellums (the Eddas, the Flatey-Book), all being a present from Bishop Brynjolf to the King of Denmark. The volume is written about the middle of the thirteenth century and in two handwritings; it is defective by several leaves in the middle, and mutilated at the end; besides, the edges and corners are singed, burnt, torn off, and blackened, so that it is very difficult to read; sometimes it baffles all decipherment; happily a text of the same family, although of a later date, is preserved in the third and last handwriting of the Flatey-Book, as also in the Fagrskinna, from which sources the text can be supplemented, and lines filled up, which is often done in the Edition, these insertions being marked with small types.

The text of the *Morkinskinna* consists of the Lives of the kings of Norway, but only beginning with King Harold Hardradi, then running on probably (for the end is missing) down to King Sverri. The text bears often the marks of great antiquity, and seems to represent a text older than Snorri's. The genealogies are carried down to about 1220 (Skúli is, p. 122, called "Earl," which he became in 1217); a Swedish king, Jon Sörkvisson (1216-1222) is named "King Sörkvir, father of King John," p. 169; the MS. itself cannot be of much later date. A chief ornament of the text are the many inserted episodes, which are here told in a better, quainter, and more original form than in any other text (the Hulda not excepted), containing old words, forms, and phrases, which in the other texts have been obliterated and replaced by more common words, e.g., many instances of the suffixed verbal negative. Of all the old recensions this comes nearest to the lost Hryggjarstykk, by Eric Oddsson, especially in the saga of Sigurd Slembi. The writer seems to have had that work lying before him, so that sometimes we have the very words of the lost original; it also contains two or three fresh anecdotes—e.g., the story of the poet Einar Skulason, not found elsewhere. In the Saga of Harold Hardradi, the story of Hakon Ivarsson (p. 81-93), and his falling out with the king, are here told in a much better and truer shape than in any of the other recensions; the text of the Hulda (Fms. vi.) is here inferior, not to speak of the Heimskringla. The same text is contained in the third handwriting of the Flatey-Book, which is to be regarded as a sister vellum to our *Morkinskinna*. The account of the invasion of England under King Harold (p. 109-120) agrees with the text in Fagrskinna, containing many improvements, although chiefly in words and phrases, on the other texts, and deserves to be consulted by every student of those events.

We noticed, in a former article, the minced and mutilated text of the Heimskringla in her latter parts, owing to the unskilled hand of compilers or abridgers, who strove to contract sentences, skipping now and then from one full stop to another. Mr. Freeman (in his work, vol. iii., p. 366, the footnote) says that the Icelandic saga "oddly enough" does not relate the death of Earl Tostig in the battle of Stamford-bridge. This is true, but only of the Heimskringla text, for the compiler happens here to have skipped over a whole sentence—leaping from one full stop to the next, not from any inadvertency as a transcriber, but, as in a hundred other instances, in order to make a short cut. The text of the Hulda, as well as that of the *Morkinskinna* and the Fagrskinna, presents here the full text; thus the *Morkinskinna* says (p. 119): "This fight was hard, but not long; there was a great manslaughter in the ranks of the Northmen. The Earl fought bravely, following the standards, but at last he fell

there with great valour and good fame." Add another instance even more telling, but not bearing on the history of England. We find in our sagas the lives of the kings of Norway, but not of the Norse people; thus it happens that we find but scanty accounts of Norse law-suits (such as, e.g., for Iceland, are contained in the excellent *Njála*, and everywhere in the sagas). For Norway there are only two chief sources—a chapter in the *Egil's saga* referring to the tenth century; but a still better and more authentic report is contained in a special narrative, called *Thinga-saga*, a law-suit between the two brother-kings, Sigurd and Eystein, of the beginning of the twelfth century, where the parties appealed from one court and law-parliament to another. This highly interesting narrative, clear and lucid when read in the *Hulda* (Fms. vi.), or in the *Morkinskinna*, p. 174-185 (inscribed, "*þinga-saga milli Sigurðar konungs ok Eysteins konungs*"), is in the *Heimskringla* given in a very much abridged text, faulty and confused, misstating even the local names—a worthless and bewildering compendium. In fact, the legend of the excellency of the text of the *Heimskringla* above all other texts, as held up by Peter Erasmus Müller, has to be discarded, or has to be upheld *cum grano salis* according to inner evidence; and historians who wish to consult the Icelandic sagas have constantly to bear this in mind.

G. VIGFUSSON.

THE RĀMĀYAṆA AND HOMER.

To the Editor of the ACADEMY.

SIR,—In drawing the attention of your readers to the patriotic indignation of some learned Hindoos against my paper on the Rāmāyaṇa, the author of the article "Intelligence" in your No. 65, p. 58, states its purport in the following terms:—"The paper referred to attempts to prove that Vālmīki, the composer of the Hindu epic, was acquainted, either directly or indirectly, with Homer's *Iliad*; and that the main plot of his composition—the abduction of Sītā to Lankā (Ceylon), as well as several other incidents—were taken from the Greek poem."

I beg to decline this representation of my views as a true one. What I maintain is simply this:

"It is possible that in the addition of these two elements (the abduction of Sītā by Rāvana and the siege of Lankā) to the earliest form of the story told in the Rāmāyaṇa—as we find it in the Buddhist legend—we should recognize the influence of an acquaintance on the part of Vālmīki with the Homeric *saga-cycle*, just as other stories belonging to the cycle have found their way into the Buddhist legend." (Boyd's translation in the *Indian Antiquary*, 1872, p. 252.)

"I do not imagine that he (Vālmīki) had himself studied Homer, or even that he must have been aware of the existence of the Homeric poem." (Ibid, p. 173.)

"I content myself with the simple assumption that in consequence of the mutual relations which Alexander's expedition into India brought about between the inhabitants of that country and the Greeks, some kind of knowledge of the substance of the Homeric story found its way to India." (Ibid.)

I have not seen the "dignified" review of my essay by *Kāshindh Trimbak Telang*, who "endeavours to refute my arguments one by one;" but as "he lays particular stress on the total want of correspondence in the delineation of the various characters introduced in the two poems," it appears from the foregoing statement of my real opinion, that he fights as much against windmills as Bābū Rājendralāl Mitra does, who has "succeeded" in "ridiculing and condemning" in a "bantering and ironical style," and to "demolish with great effect" MY (!) theory: "that the Rāmāyaṇa of Vālmīki is simply an Indian translation of Homer's *Iliad*." (*Hindoo Patriot*.)

Lassen wir ihnen dies unschuldige Vergnügen!

Allow me to add besides a short remark on a notice of *Bhandarkar's* able article on Patanjali's age, in the same No. of the *Academy*, p. 59. The very passage adduced by Bhandarkar as pointing out King Push-

pamitra as a contemporary of Patanjali has been adduced already *twelve years ago* (1861), in my reply on Goldstücker's preface to his *Mānava Kalapāsūtra*, *Indische Studien* V, 150, where the whole question on Patanjali's age is moreover treated in the sequel (to p. 169), with many important details left untouched by its recent investigator. I gave there the name of the king, in accordance with the Tibetan sources, as Pushyamitra, but Professor Bühler informs me that the Jains spell the name in their Māgadhi-texts, Puppamitta, which gives Pushpamitra as the right form.

A. WEBER.

Berlin, Feb. 25, 1873.

Notes and Intelligence.

Hymnes Sanscrits, Persiens, Egyptiens, Assyriens et Chinois. Chi-King, ou Livre des Vers, traduit pour la première fois en français par G. Pauthier. Paris: Maisonneuve. The second volume of the *Bibliothèque Orientale* (a collection of the chefs-d'œuvre of Oriental literature) derives its sole scientific importance from translations of Egyptian and Assyrian hymns. Most of these have been hitherto completely unpublished. The triumphal hymns of Tutmes III., and of Ramses II., and a hymn to Osiris and Ra, are rendered by the late Vicomte de Rougé, some invocations by Chabas, hymns to the Sun by Lefebvre, and the complaints of Isis and Nephthys by Horrack. The Assyrian portions are due to M. J. Oppert.

Dr. Geitler has recently published in the Bohemian language, a *Phonology of the ancient Bulgarian*, with relation to the Lithuanian.

Dr. F. Kielhorn, principal of the Deccan College at Poona, has just completed the second part of his translation of the *Paribhāshendusekhara*. The third and last part is expected to follow in about three months.

The Indian Antiquary.—A journal of Oriental Research in Archaeology, History, Literature, Languages, Philosophy, Religion, Folklore, &c. Edited by Jas. Burgess. Vol. I. Bombay. 1872.

On the completion of the first volume of Mr. James Burgess' *Indian Antiquary*, a monthly journal devoted to Oriental, and more especially Indian, research, which has already rendered good service in several branches of literary and antiquarian inquiry, a few remarks on the work it has hitherto done may not seem out of place in these columns devoted to literary and scientific criticism. When in the beginning of last year Mr. Burgess put forth the first number of his periodical, accompanied by a prospectus promising information on almost any subject that is likely to interest those who inquire into Indian antiquity, many must have given a hearty welcome and wished success to what bade fair to become a useful medium of communication between the Oriental scholars and archaeologists in the east and west. There can be no doubt that scholars in India especially had long felt the want of a record of this kind, ready to receive and at once publish, along with communications of higher pretensions, any observations or statements which, though unsuited to the journals of Asiatic societies and other institutions, might prove of interest or bring on discussions, and thus aid the progress of science.

It must now be satisfactory to Mr. Burgess, in glancing over the list of contents of his first volume, to have been able during the past year to avail himself of the services of so many of the best known scholars in India. Nor is it likely that any of his subscribers should feel disappointed at the result of the co-operation of so many able contributors. Those who make the ancient literature of India the object of their study cannot but have read with much interest the accounts given by Dr. G. Bühler of several rare works which he has had the good fortune of discovering during his recent official search for Sanskrit manuscripts, such as Kshemendra's *Vrihatsāhita*, Hemachandra's *Deśasādhana-sāgraha* and others; or the papers of Messrs. A. Burnell, K. T. Telang, and Profs. Bhandarkar and Sashagiri Sāstri on various interesting questions of Sanskrit literature. Whilst the contributions of Messrs. Beames, Growse, and Hoernle throw some new light on the literature and philology of some of the northern vernaculars; Mr. R. C. Caldwell has given some specimens of Tamil popular poetry; and the Rev. F. Kittel has attempted to determine some Dravidian elements in Sanskrit, and has moreover given an account of a newly discovered Ancient Canarese Dictionary, by Manga Rāja, which appears to be of considerable value. On Hindu folklore, also, there are some interesting communications by the editor, by Dr. Leitner, and Messrs. Damant and Benett.

It is, however, to archaeological, geographical and historical inquiries that most space has been allotted in the columns of this journal. The volume contains a number of copies of valuable inscriptions appertaining to various dynasties, with translations and remarks by Profs. Bhandarkar and Shankar Pandit, and Messrs. J. F. Fleet and B. L. Rice; and some inscriptions from Ceylon, with explanatory notes by Mr. Rhys Davids. Prof. Blochmann has contributed several biographical notices of grandees of the Mughul court, chiefly extracted from a Persian work, entitled *Madsir ul Umari*; and Bābū Rājendralāl Mitra, Messrs.

Ramsay, Narasimmiyengar, Col. Mackenzie, and others have severally illustrated some points of historical or antiquarian interest. The editor has also printed an English translation, by the Rev. D. C. Boyd, of Prof. Weber's essay on the *Rāmāyana*, which has already been ably reviewed elsewhere by Mr. K. T. Telang, and which it would be interesting to see discussed by other Hindu scholars in the columns of this journal. It is to be hoped, in the interest of Oriental studies, that the existence of so useful a record as Mr. Burgess' *Indian Antiquary* has already proved to be may never be endangered by want of that encouragement and support to which it is fairly entitled.

J. EGGEING.

The current number of the Bengal Asiatic Society's journal contains a highly interesting and important essay, by Bābū Rajendralāla Mitra, on the use of beef in Ancient India. The writer adduces abundant passages from Vedic texts and law-books as well as from later works which show clearly that, whatever may be the feelings of Hindus on this subject nowadays, beef was a staple article of food with their forefathers. "The idea of beef," remarks the Bābū, "the flesh of the earthly representative of the divine Bhagavati as an article of food is so shocking to the Hindu, that thousands over thousands of the more orthodox among them never repeat the counterpart of the word in their vernaculars; and many and dire have been the sanguinary conflicts which the shedding of the blood of cows has caused in this country. And yet it would seem that there was a time when not only no compunctious visitings of conscience had a place in the mind of the people in slaughtering cattle; when not only the meat of that animal was actually esteemed a valuable aliment; when not only was it a mark of generous hospitality, as among the ancient Jews, to slaughter the 'fatted calf' in honour of respected guests, but when a supply of beef was deemed an absolute necessity by pious Hindus in their journey from this to another world, and a cow was invariably killed to be burnt with the dead. To Englishmen who are familiar with the present temper of the people on the subject, and to a great many of the natives themselves, this remark may appear quite startling; but the authorities on which it is founded are so authentic and incontrovertible that they cannot for a moment be gainsaid."

Bābū Rajendralāla Mitra has also issued the fifth fasciculus of his "Notices of Sanskrit Manuscripts," comprising Nos. 678-787. The manuscripts described in this part are most of them copies of philosophic (chiefly *Vedānta*) works and commentaries, and manuals of Vaidik and sectarian ritual. A rather curious compilation is noticed under No. 731: *Viṣvakarmāya Silpa*, a treatise on the manual arts, attributed to Viṣvakarmā, the divine architect. The MS., which belongs to Bābū Rajendra, is said to have been copied from an old code in the library of the Rājā of Tanjore, which is written in the ancient Canarese character. Among the MSS. noticed is also an old, though incorrect, copy of the *Upagrantha-Sūtra* (No. 777), one of the ten Sūtras of the *Sāmaveda*, of which one MS. only (India Office 121) exists in Europe.

Contents of the Journals.

Journal Asiatique. January.—Buddhic studies; by M. Feer. [On "The Friend of Virtue" and "The Friendship of Virtue," with new texts.]—The actual metric system of Egypt; by Mahmoud Bey.—Miscellaneous. Notice on ancient formulæ of incantations, &c., in a language anterior to the Babylonian. [Contains a sketch of Accadian grammar. From its imperfection and errors it appears to have been written some years ago. The more correct account of the facts will be found in M. Lenormant's *Études accadiennes*. It is followed by a good and ingenious translation of a tablet of exorcisms (*W. A. T.* ii., 17, 18).]—Porter Smith on the *Materia Medica* and Natural History of China.

Revue archéologique. February.—The most ancient inscription in Assyrian; by M. Lenormant. [This is a Semitic inscription of an ancient Accadian king of Ur on a black stone. It is valuable as showing Semitic influence in Babylonia at an earlier period than has hitherto been suspected.]

Zeitschrift für deutsche Philologie. IV. 4. Halle.—Ueber die scheinbare Verwechselung zwischen Nominativ und Accusativ; L. Tobler. [Explained as the result partly of phonetic, partly of syntactical laws. The endings become confused and partially levelled from phonetic decay, and the process is further assisted by various syntactical constructions which admit the use of nominative or accusative indifferently. The illustrations are drawn chiefly from the German dialects of Switzerland, with occasional reference to English and French.]—Bemerkungen zum Redentiner Osterspiele; Fr. Drosihn. [Corrections of the text, and explanation of difficult passages.]—Zur livländischen Reimchronik; Leo Meyer. [Remarks on the MSS., with corrections of the printed texts, and dissertations on special words and phrases.]—Zur älteren Edda; J. Zupitza. [A series of explanations and emendations, of which the most important is the reading *kendi* (=wies) for *kundi* in Sgkv. 3, 3, 6: *ok veg akunn*.]

The Indian Antiquary, ed. J. Burgess. Part XII. Bombay, December, 1872.—On a Copperplate Grant from Balasore; by J. Beames.

[This plate is in the possession of the Bhuyāns, a family of Zamindars at Garhpada, about fifteen miles north of Balasore. It records a Grant by Rājā Purushottama Deva, King of Orissa, and is dated in the fifth year of the king's reign (A.D. 1483).]—On the derivation of some peculiar Gaurian verbs; by the Rev. A. F. R. Hoernle. [By the term *Gaurian* the northern vernaculars are designated; the paper treats of a class of verbs in these dialects with a special base derived from the past participle.]—The Merkara Plates; text and translation by B. L. Rice, with remarks by the editor and R. G. Bhandarkar. [An important inscription of the Chera dynasty, dated in 388, probably of the Saka era=A.D. 466.]—The Lady and the Dove: a Bengali song, composed by a Hindu female; by Rev. J. M. Mitchell. [Text and translation in English verse.]—Facsimile of a Persian map of the world, with an English translation; by E. Rekatsek. [The original belongs to a Muhammadan at Junner, in the Bombay presidency.]—On some Koch words in Mr. Damant's article on the Palis of Dinagpur; by J. Beames.—Archæology in the Krishna District. [Extracts from a report by the late J. A. C. Boswell, continued.]—Three Maisur Copper Grants; by V. N. Narasimmiyengar. [Text and translations of some forged Copper Grants purporting to have been executed in the reign of King Janamejaya at the beginning of the Kaliyug.]—Dr. Bühler's Report on Sanskrit MSS. in Gujarat. [Dr. B. informs us that as soon as the fourth part of his catalogue will have been issued, supplementary lists will be printed; and that considerable progress has been made in cataloging Jaina libraries. The number of MSS. purchased during the year amounts to 421, among which there are several valuable works. The collection of Jaina books at Bombay is said to be now larger than any other public collection: there are copies of nearly all the sacred works and commentaries, both old and new, on most of them.]—Correspondence.

New Publications.

BAECHTHOLD, J. Deutsche Handschriften aus dem Britischen Museum. In Auszügen. Schaffhausen: Baader.

CHANDRA SUTRA OF PINGALA ACHARYA. With Commentary of Halayudha. Ed. by Pandita Visvanatha Sastri. Fasc. ii. (Bibliotheca Indica, No. 270.) Trübner.

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ERRATA IN No. 67.

Page 84 (b) 6 lines from bottom for "Reubens" read "Rubens."

" " " " "Sneyders" read "Snyders."

" 85 (a) 25th line from top for "3 Bde" read "3rd Band."

" 87, col. 1, line 9, dele "which."

" " 2, " 26, read "Gen. ii. 1-3."

" 89, " 1, " 14, for "Devotion" read "Doctrine."

" " " 16, for "Ahmed" read "Ameer Ali."

" 93 (b) 24th line from top for "Langerhaus" read "Langerhans."

" 94 " 30th " " for "fronded" read "founded."

" " 36th " " for "Composita" read "Compositae."

" " 38th " " for "Legumiosae" read "Leguminosae."

" " 44th " " for "35th" read "55th."

" 97 " 32nd " " for "begun" read "began."

" 99 " 16th " " bottom for "second" read "common."

THE ACADEMY.

"INTER SILVAS ACADEMI QUÆRERE VERUM."

Vol. IV.—No. 68.

Readers are reminded that the mention of New Books, Articles, &c., in our lists is intended as a guarantee of their importance.

The Editor of THE ACADEMY cannot undertake to return communications which are not asked for.

The Editor cannot reply to questions from authors respecting the notice of their books.

The next number will be published on Tuesday, April 1, and Advertisements should be sent in by March 28.

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